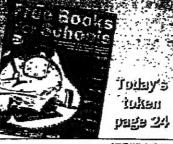
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Plea for end to 'gossip column politics'

Cook doing superb job, says Blair

By Roland Watson, political correspondent

TONY BLAIR appealed to vot-ers yesterday to rise above the personal shortcomings of his ministers after Robin Cook's former wife published an intimate and embarrasing acunt of their failed marriage. The Prime Minister said that British politics was in danger of being relegated to little more than a gossip column, "an extension of Hollywood", if ministers' private lives renamed relentlessly under the

He gave his Foreign Secretary unqualified support, insisting that Margaret Cook's tales of infidelity, drunkenness. and fits of depression did not diminish the "superb job" he was doing for the country.

After three weeks dominated by resignation and the personal rivalries at the top of his decide what we want the political agenda to be. We can either go through the personal lives of all Cabinet ministers and pick them apart, or we can decide that the Government should be judged on the prom-

ises that it made.". His comments came as Mr Cook's friends insisted that it was "business as usual" despite the humiliating detail of Mrs Cook's account of their 28-year marriage, serialised in She claims that in the 1980s



tal and physical collapse", and ond Mrs Cook

Potentially as wounding to Mr Cook's political future was her description of how the former left-wing firebrand ad-mitted he had "sold his soul to the devil to remain aboard Mr Blairs new Labour

Mr Blair dismissed the claims as little more than scandal and gossip and trivia", insisting it was irrelevant when compared to the business of government. But he appeared to concede that there today.

were personal differences among senior ministers, a running theme since Peter Man-You could go to any organisation, any big business, and say there's this personal problem with this individual or this personal difficulty. But most people would say, well, judge the organisation or company on whether they're doing the things they're supposed to do

The Tories leapt on Mrs Cook's revelations, claiming that the Foreign Secretary would no longer be able to do his job. Iain Duncan-Smith. the Tory social security spokes man, said they made him a

claims were "another nail in Robin Cook's political coffin Labour insiders said the claims did not necessarily affect Mr Cook's long-term futhat much depended on how quickly he was able to shift to focus back onto his job.

Foreign Secretary, said the

Mr Cook declined to comment on his former wife's book. As part of a routine working day at Chevening, his grace and layour mansion in Kent, he spent 20 minutes on the telephone to Madelaine Albright, the US Secretary of State, discussing Kosovo and Iraq, as well as preparing a statement on Yemen which he will deliver to the Commons



But in a clear sign that the headlines prompted by the book were far worse than he had feared, he changed his original strategy for dealing with the book's publication. He had asked friends to say nothing, but in the event, Labour MPs queued up to rebut

her claims — especially about his drinking habits.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, said the suggestion that he had a drink problem certainly isn't the Robin I know and have known for many years". And Donald Anderson, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee, said that Mrs Cook's "totally incredible" claim about ber former husband's drinking cast doubt on her other allega-

The former Cabinet minister Harriet Harman, who worked with Mr Cook on La-

bour's health team at the time Mrs Cook says he was drink-ing heavily, said she was "as-tonished" by the claims.

Domestic drama, page No regret or apology, page 5 W. Rees-Mogg, page 20 Leading article, page 21

Cash is there to give big pay rise to nurses

BY JANET BUSH ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE Government could comfortably afford an above-average pay increase for Britain's nurses, in spite of the threat of economic recession this year.

according to City forecasts.

The predictions suggest that the Government is heading for a budget surplus of up to £10 billion this year because tax receipts have been far higher than expected.

This war chest of public money means that finances will still be roughly in balance even if the economy slows down sharper than expected.

Michael Saunders of the American investment house Salomon Smith Barney, said: The UK's public finances seem to be in better shape than anyone has dared to believe."

He said that the huge sur-plus now expected would ease worries about the affordability of the generous public spending plans announced in the autumn and might even allow the Chancellor to cut business

Against this background, a generous increase in nurses pay is affordable so long as the Treasury believes that it would pay a political dividend.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, is reported to be in favour of a 5 per cent increase payable in full rather than phased. The question is whether the Treasury will be prepared to find the extra cash as well as compromise on its determination to continue bearing down on public sector pay. A 5 per cent increase — the level expected to be recommended by the pay review body this week — would add about £330 million to the £6.6 billion annual nurses' bill.

> Nurses' shortage, page 2 Leading article, page 21

Yemeni pledge

promised that they will not use force to try to free John Brooke, a British oil worker seized by tribesman on Sat-urday, and negotiations for his release are continuing.

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Men die

W.W

His abductors, who are demanding the release of a comrade accused of murder and sabotage, say that he is being well-treated, but that we will be killed if troops surrounding their hideout at-

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Betty Boothroyd set to quit early as Speaker

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

BETTY BOOTHROYD is considering standing down as Speaker of the House of Commons before the next election.

Ministers believe Miss Boothroyd could retire from her role as one of the nation's

figureheads in 2000, earlier than expected. She will be 70 shortly before the millennium, and having seen through both milestones from the Speaker's chair her friends believe she may give her successor a start in the tail

Retiring then would still guarantee her a place as one of the longest serving Speakers in recent memory, as well as being the first woman to hold the office. It would also spark a by-election in her West Bromwich West constituency, as former Speakers do not return. to the Commons backbenches. Labour MPs have recently

end of this Parliament.

detected signs of fatigue in the Speaker, who has been at log-gerheads with ministers over their habit of making government announcements outside the Commons.

She is also deeply conservative as a parliamentarian, and has set herself four-square against the Government's attempts to modernise the Palace of Westminster.

Although widely-admired by her multi-million-strong television audience worldwide, Miss Boothroyd, a former Tiller girl, has attracted private criticism from both sides of the

Loyalist Labour MPs feel she can be too lenient in giving air time in the Commons chamber to government crit-ics, such as Tony Benn and George Galloway over Iraq. But Tories used to make the same complaint when they

were in government and friends of the Speaker say it shows she is doing her job. Miss Boothroyd has sig-nalled that her reign would

come to an end at the next election. But she has told friends she may go earlier. There's general expectation that she won't stand at the next election," said one.

The suggestion that Miss Boothroyd will go sooner rather than later will accelerate the search for a successor. The most obvious candidate is Sir Alan Haselhurst, one of her Tory deputies. Although lacking her star quality, he has the respect of all sides of the

A strong contender is Alan Beith, the Liberal Democrat deputy leader. Other Tory candidates would include former Cabinet ministers Tom King and John MacGregor.

Santer battles to stave off censure

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

JACQUES SANTER goes before the European Parliament with his 19 commissioners tonight in an attempt to defuse a censure vote that is certain to inflict heavy political damage and could force the whole Brussels executive to resign.

In the first serious showdown with the executive since the Strasbourg assembly acruired more muscle under the Maastricht treaty, many of the 626 MEPs are determined to hold the Commission to account for mismanagement, fraud, corruption and other malpractices. Mr Santer, the Commission President, will need every ounce of his political skill to ensure that he does not spend his final 11 months in office as the lamest of ducks.

He is, however, expected to escape the all-or-nothing vote on Thursday, which requires a two-thirds majority and which would sack his whole tearn,

of negotiations on European Union spending. The leader-ship of the dominant Socialist bloc is not backing censure, al-Pauline Green precipitated the crisis by proposing the motion last month to clear the air after Parliament refused to sign off

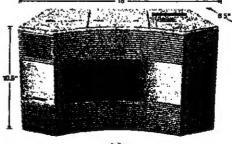
the Commission's accounts. European People's Party, the second group, wants its MEPs to back the Commission, provided Mr Santer promises reform. Support for all-out censure comes from the Greens and other groups, including German Socialist rebels.

However, with passions running high and the Commission gripped by a mood of siege, the outcome remains un-

EU showdown, page 13 Leading article, page 21

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Marquess of Bristol found dead in bed

By Claudia Joseph.

THE Marquess of Bristol, who seandal ised society with his debanchery and drug abuse, has died suddenly at his Suffolk

home, aged 44. Lord Bristol, who was jailed twice for possessing drugs, was found dead in bed yesterday morning by staff at Little Hor-ringer Hall on the Ickworth estate.

His death comes a year after that of his half-brother and then heir, Lord Nicholas Hervey, a schizophrenic who was found hanged at his London flat at the age of 36. His other half-brother Lord Frederick Hervey, who left Eton for university last year, will become the eighth Marquess.

the doctor last week with a bout of flu, but fined for stealing traffic bollards, was that his death was still a great shock. "He once accused of blasting the door of a was perfectly well over Christmas and was discussing going to the Bahamas for

a couple of weeks. I spoke to him on Friday and he was a bit under the weather, but he was making plans for his holiday. He had a light meal on Saturday evening but was found dead resterday. Everyone is devastated."

Lord Bristol, who was educated at Harrow and Neuchatel University, had a chequered life starting with a strict childhood, in which he once claimed that he was made to wear long white gloves. Those years, coupled with his parents' divorce when he was five, were said to have Lord Bristol's agent, Simon Pott, said. been the root of his life of debauchery and last night that the marquess had visited frequent brushes with the law.He was

fridge with a shotgun to get a bottle of champagne, and found himself unwelcome in both America and Australia because of his drugs habit. He was married in 1984 to the 20-year-

old daughter of a property developer, but that ended in divorce and he swiftly returned to his old lifestyle.

Lord Bristol inherited £4 million, the 4,000-acre Ickworth estate, a 57,000-acre sheep station in Australia and four oil wells from his father in 1985, and he once estimated his personal fortune at £30 million. But last April he sold the Ickworth estate to the National Trust.

Obituary, page 23



had flu last week

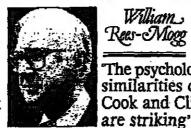


The challenge for Labour is, can Blair be more like Thatcher?



Blundy

'In Russia you simply queue up and then get what

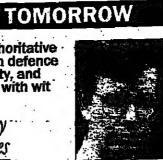


Rees-Mogg The psychological similarities of Cook and Clinton



An authoritative voice in defence of sanity, and spiked with wit

Libby Purves



An astringent view from the Right, calculated to provoke 😅 **Michael**

Gove

We need 12,000 more nurses, say hospitals

THE NHS is short of between cording to the Royal College of Nursing. The shortfall, based on va-

cancies reported by three quarters of hospitals in England, Wales and Scotland last April. shows a steep rise from the 8,000 figure quoted up to now by the Department of Health. The RCN believes that the figure is even higher.

Recruitment remains ex-tremely difficult but the Government faces having to find double the 15,000 staff it promised to hire during the next three years if it is to bring the up to full nursing

THOUSANDS of young millennium volunteers will help

to ease the staffing shortages

in hospitals and schools, as

well as revitalising sink es-

tates, under plans to be an-

The £50 million scheme has

run into a series of delays

since featuring in Labour's

election manifesto. Once

billed as a civilian equivalent

of national service, it was in-

tended to cater for 100,000 vol-

unteers by next year, but has

been scaled down after disa-

greements over long-term

funding and leadership of the

will receive out-of-pocket ex-

penses to work on a range of

Young people aged 16-25

programme.

the £44 billion spent on the year. New admissions to the NHS, but the whole service is on the edge of crisis because there is a shortage of nurses on almost every ward in the land. The NHS has a complement of 295,000 nurses, but part-time working means that 370,000 are needed to do all

Recruitment to nursing courses, however, is proving increasingly difficult, with fewer young people apparently at-tracted by a career of high dedication and relatively low pay.

There is a high and growing drop-out rate from among those who are accepted. Last year 14 per cent of entries discontinued their course, 2 per cent more than in the previous

Young volunteers to

ease staffing crisis

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

community-based projects. Lo-cal authorities and voluntary

bodies will be invited to bid

for Government support in

three stages, starting this spring. The scheme, mostly for unemployed young peo-ple, will be based on pilot

projects that have been run-

ning for three years, with

funding from the Sainsbury

store chain, in Cardiff, Sunder-

land and Southwark, South

London. Volunteers have

belped to raise reading stand-

ards in primary schools and

assisted auxiliary staff in hos-

pitals and retirement homes,

as well as working on environ-

mental projects.

David Blunkett, the Educa-

tion and Employment Secre-

College of Nursing in early December — before the current crisis — found that 71 per cent register have fallen by 26 per cent in the past seven years. of wards reported nursing va-The number of students in pre-registration nursing educacancies, with one in ten wards tion has dropped from 53,500 at least four registered nurses to 45,500 in the past four

On average there were only Recruits from overseas have three nurses available for the early day shifts on wards with become an essential part of staffing and one nurse in six 27 patients and usually a nurse has to look after ten beds. Nurses have had so joining the register has come from abroad. Many of the nurses come from developing many duties devolved to them countries which means that because of the shortage of doctors that they are responsible their skills are lost to a place for the sole care throughout the day of a quarter of all pathat arguably needs them even more than Britain.

Even so the shortage in Brit-

ain is having serious conse-quences for the entire health service. A survey by the Royal

tary, has waged a lengthy cam-paign in Whitehall to estab-lish a large-scale volunteering

initiative. Until last year's ne-

gotiations with the Treasury.

only £15 million from the

Windfall Tax on the former

public utilities had been allo-

Long an advocate of volun-

teer work as a route into em-

ployment as well as a benefit to the community, Mr Blun-kett has said the scheme will

offer young people a sense of identity and the chance to feel

welcomed rather than reject-

ed. The first phase is likely to

include some existing projects

as well as the most innovative

proposals that can be under

way before the end of the year.

cated to the scheme.

On the day of the survey one in ten posts was filled by an agency nurse. The RCN calculates that agency and overtime nursing costs the NHS £600 million a year. Agency nurses can earn up to 15 per cent more than inside the NHS and can chose the shifts they want to work. The RCN argues that if their pay claim for parity with teachers were met it would stop the haemorrhage of trained staff and boost recruitment to the necessary levels. The cost would be El.2 billion — double the amount spent on agencies and overtime but would bring stability and confidence to the

After three years training a nurse can expect to earn no more than £12,855 — 17 per cent below the starting rate for

If the nurse does stay with the job the highest pay for a post with trust-wide responsi-bilities is £26,965. In September the Government announced a £1,000 a year bonus for extra responsibility, but this will be available only to 200 working in senior grades.

Leading article, page 21



Tony Blair with Sir David Frost yesterday. The Prime Minister denied he was too far removed from the party's roots

Ministers unveil spending plans in 'relaunch week'

BY ROLAND WATSON POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

CABINET ministers will this week announce a series of policy initiatives as part of an attempt to shift the focus from personalities and to issues.

David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, will today announce that primary school pupils will have an hour-long mathematics lesson every day from September. A further £18 million will go towards ex-tending the summer holiday "revision classes" in literacy and numeracy for be-low par pupils into the Easter break.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, will unveil £250 million for a strategy to combat burglary, covering more than two mil-The money will go towards security measures such as closed circuit televison

Alistair Darling, the Social Security Secretry, will announce £80 million for pilot projects to help create a "single gateway" for all claimants entering the benefit system. It is the latest step in requiring all claimants to turn up for job interviews be-fore being awarded benefits.

The initiatives follow the Prime Minister's assertion during his speech last weekin Cape Town last he is prepared to inject an authoritarian streak into his government to achieve necessary reforms.

With MPs returning to Westminster today for the first time since the resigna-tions of Peter Mandelson and Geoffrey Robinson, Tony Blair used an interview with Sir David Frost on BBCI yesterday to try to allay the fears of some Labour. MPs that he was becoming too remote from their concerns.

The Prime Minister made clear that he had been kept up to date with the troubles facing the National Health Service while he was on holiday in the Seychelles and during official government visit to South Africa. "I'm not going to tolerate a health service where people are lying on trolleys waiting for treatment," he said.

He also indicated that he had digested the concerns raised by some senior ministers about his links with the Liberal Demo-

crats. Although he maintained it was "serisible" to explore common ground between the two parties, Mr Blair dismissed the idea of Paddy Ashdown joining the Cabi-net. He appeared to dash Liberal Democrat hopes of a referendum on proportional representation before the next election. Big Con S

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Mr Blair said he was "fed up" with fac-ing questions about his relationship with Gordon Brown, insisting it was "as strong, as any relationship between any Prime Minister and Chancellor there's every been". He conceded that the gossip about personalities in the Government was fuelled from the inside, but he gave it no currency. "Some of the lower-downs twitter about a bit," he said.

He insisted that it was the "big-picture questions like health, education and crime that mattered to voters. He said: "I don't say everything in the garden is rosy. There are a lot of problems we've got to sort out. But we are sorting them out." He said that because the Conservatives had not developed criticism on policy issues. the focus was diverted to personalities.

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Brown accused over girlfriend's contract

By Mark Inglefield, political reporter

AS THE Prime Minister called for an end to the media's thirst for "scandal and gossip" yesterday two of his most senior ministers as well as his press spokesman, Alastair Campbell, found themselves under fire for al-

leged wrongdoing. Gordon Brown, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, was accused of breaching the Ministerial Code after it emerged that his political ally and friend. Geoffrey Robinson, the former Paymaster General, had awarded a private £100,000 contract to a company coowned by Sarah Macaulay, the Chancellor's girlfriend.

Ms Macoulay's public relations company receives £3,000 a month for arranging promo-tional events for the New Statesman, the left-wing magazine owned by Mr Robinson. A spokesman for the compa-Hobshawn-Macaulay. ny, Hobsbawn—Macaulay, said the contract was won fair-

ly by "word of mouth". But the Torics swiftly demanded that the Prime Minister carry out a full investigation into the deal, which they believe infringes the part of the Ministerial Code that warns members of the Government to guard against any risk of potential conflicts of interest affecting themselves or their

spouse or partner". David Heathcoat-Amory, the Tory Treasury spokesman, said: "Gordon Brown and Geoffrey Robinson seem to have a driven a coach and horses through the Ministerial Code. Mr Robinson has effectively paid over £100,000 to Mr Brown's partner's company. in return he (Mr Robinson) kept his ministerial job long after his self-by date. Everybody knows it was Gordon Brown who persuaded the Prime Min-

ister not to sack him." The second attack was directed at Dr Jack Cunning-

Heath inquiry Sir Edward Heath could be

investigated by the Parliamentary Commissioner for Standards for not fully declaring his private business concerns in the House of Commons Register of Members' Interests. The former Prime Minsister strongly denies any

ham, the "cabinet enforcer", who was accused of squandering taxpayers' money on pri-vate jets costing £45,950 when he was Agriculture Minister. The information was supplied by his successor in that depart-

ment Nick Brown Tim Yeo, the shadow Agri-culture Minister, said: "What is clear is that power has well and truly gone to the heads of ministers in this Government." The Ministry of Agri-culture, however, insisted that the flights "conformed with

Alastair Campbell was attacked for using a chauffeured Government car to travel to work, a perk not enjoyed by any of his predecessors.

Downing Street said he was "a member of the Govern-ment" although admitted that technically he was only "an official". This starus was seemingly confirmed by an article in The Sunday Times by Romola Christopherson, until the be-ginning of this month head of information at the Department of Health. He said Mr Campbell was the second most powerful person in the

Protesters, shut new bypass

THE Newbury bypass was closed yesterday when about 200 environmental protesters spilt on to the recently opened: road and left rocks and manhole covers on the carriageway, police said.

Some marched two miles carrying banners while others ripped rocks from the embankment and dumped them, according to Thames Valley Police. The central reservation was also damaged. One per son was arrested for obstruction and further arrests were

expected. The bypass was the scene of one of Britain's most violent environmental demonstrations. with 1,000 people arrested during a passionate campaign against the 100 million project. About 250 protesters had planned a march and a rally

close to the bypass to mark the third anniversary of the clearance programme to prepare for the controversial eight-mile road. But police said that most of them left the official route and spilled on to the

road for about two hours.

The police spokesman the contempt" shown toward mo torists, and a march organiser also criticised the dumping of rocks on the road.

Diana manslaughter charge unlikely

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

THE French judge investigating the car crash that killed Diana. Princess of Wales is unlikely to press manslaughter

cording to French legal sources. Judge Hervé Stephan is expected to recommend no more than minor charges against three of the paparazzi under investigation. Yesterday a lawyer involved in the case said: "The judge's report will not be completed until later this month, and even after that all the lawyers can

charges in connection with the case, ac-

ask him to follow up other lines of inquiry. So there is time for him to change

But he said M Stephan had indicated that he believed Henri Paul, the driver of the Princess's car, was solely responsible for the accident in August 1997, losing control as a result of drinking and speeding. The judge is reluctant to press man-

slaughter charges against any of those un-der investigation, including nine paparazzi, a dispatch rider, the managers of the Ritz Hotel, which employed M Paul; and the owners of the limousine hire company that let the car. There is little evidence to suggest that the photographers who pursued the Princess forced her car off the road, yet there is pressure in France for the 16-month inquiry to end with a public court hearing. Lawyers say the three photographers are likely to be

charged with the relatively minor offence; of failing to assist a person in danger. They may also face charges of obstructions the emergency services. Wing the said that the paparazzi continued to take photographs, blocking policeman and doctors as they attempted to reach the car-

British hostage reported 'alive and well'

TENSE negotiations contin-ued last night for the release of John Brooke, the kidnapped oil worker, after Yemeni minis-ters promised Britain they will not use force to resolve the ab-

Armed tribesman who fought their way inside a guarded compound to seize ir Brooke are demanding the lease of a comrade accused of murder and sabotage in exchange for Mr Brooke's free-

Mohammed Hussein Arab. Yemen's Interior Minister, insisted last night that Mr Brooke was "alive and well". Tribal leaders also assured negotiations sent by the Yemen government he was being well treated, but warned he would be killed if troops surrounding

Yemen tribesmen demand release of comrade for abducted oilman, writes Daniel McGrory in Aden

their hideout, north of the oil Church and Aden's biggest horich Marib region, attempt a

While it was feared this latest hostage crisis could drag on for weeks, security chiefs were investigating alleged links between a a London mosque and the plot to blow up British targets in Aden on Christmas Day. In a new development one of

the five Britons arrested as part of that plot has allegedly confessed he was paid \$2,000 (£1,600) to bomb the British Consulate the Anglican

tel in simultaneous attacks. Mohsen Ghailan, from London, is also said to have admitted meeting Abu Hassan, the leader of the kidnap gang that abducted 16 western tourists. They are alleged to have had two meetings just hours before secret police rounded up the

He is also said to have de-scribed himself as a merce-nary as he told police he was an atheist who came to Yemen for money. Questioned in Aden's central security head-



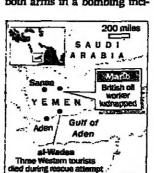
Brooke: kidnapped by armed tribesmen

quarters at the weekend the man apparrantly disclosed links to a London group known as "Ansar Sharia", the Followers of Islamic Law. The

group is headed by Hamza Al Masri, also known as Abu Hamza, a prominent Moslem cleric who preaches at the Finsbury Park mosque, north London, and who is known for his

Last night in Aden security chiefs were intensifying their search for a 17-year-old Briton, Mohammed Kamel Mus-tapha, who they wish to speak with in connection with the Christmas Day plot. The teenager, whose passport was al-legedly found in a terrorist hideout, is believed to be Al Masri's son. Scotland Yard sources confirmed that the alleged links were under investi-

If proved, it will seriously embarrass British authorities that such an Islamic terrorist plot is connected with a London mosque and is using dent in the Afghan war. When three of the Britons were aryoung British followers. The cleric under investigation is known to have raised thousands of pounds over recent vears in Britain for extreme Islamic causes abroad and lost both arms in a bombing inci-



rested, Yemeni officials allegedly found video cassettes in their hotel room which came from a London-based Islamic fundamentalist group which show Islamic terrorists in training camps.

Yemeni authorities are believed to be examining whether any of the five suspects had visited the terrorist camp of Abu Hassan, who days later seized 16 hostages to avenge the foiled Christmas Day plot. Security sources say the bombers drove away from Hassan's camp with a boot full of explosives and weap-

ons, including rocket pro-pelled grenades. The British man who allegedly confessed his part in the plot is said to

have admitted handling TNT explosives. Yemeni authorities say there was "a substantial amount of explosive which would caused a massive loss of

picked Aden because of its British colonial past and as it was seen as an easy targer. The al-ready strained relations be-tween Whitehall and Sana's over the handling of the kid-napping in which three Brit-ons and an Australian died were not helped by complaints from some of the Britons held in an Aden detention centre that they have been tortured.

MPs should learn more today about the British links to the recent terrorist outrages in Yemen when Robin makes a full statement.

Winter's tale takes its usual twist

FOR some it was a chance to take a walk through beautiful countryside dusted with snow in the first icy spell of 1999. For others it was a time to shiver and wonder what happened to last week's

warmer weather. For the meteorologists it was just business as usual. One said: "We have seen drastic changes in temperature, but its just standard British weather, it can flip between

Flurries of snow were reported along Britain's eastern coast. In Leeming, North Yorkshire, residents woke to a covering of 2.3 inches. Temperatures fell as low as -7C (19F) in Glasgow, and 2C (36F) at Heathrow. Much of Northern Ireland was gripped by freezing fog.

warning.
The cold came on the heels
of unseasonably mild weather, which saw temperatures in London hit a record high for January of 16C (61F), Martin Airey, a forecaster at the independent PA WeatherCentre, said: "It will flip again, be-coming very unsettled."



Computer virus has date with destiny

By NICK NUTTALL

A COMPUTER virus that "kills" a machine's start-up system is spreading, experts said

The rogue electronic code, designed to trigger on April 26 and known as Variant CIH, is spread by people downloading games or buying infected CDs.

The computer's drives ap-pear to hum into life. But the screen is blank and the machine fails to operate. The computer is effectively dead.

Chris Hilder, a network and security consultant at the National Computing Centre in Manchester, pointed to the emergence of several recent computer viruses that push electronic warfare into new realms. Experts fear that these may be test-runs for even more destructive rogue codes. Back Orifice — a pun on Microsoft's Back Office products - and Net Bus allow a user thousands of miles away to take over someone else's PC keyboard, mouse and other

The viruses also allow someone to hijack the computer's speakers and microphones, alin and i vate-conversations: ~

theatre site identified

By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

VE site of Shakespeare's hirst theatre may have been pinpointed, not far from London's Liverpool Street Station. The playhouse, known as the Theatre, was known to be in the Shoreditch area, but Simon Blatherwick has now docimented an exact site as part of an English Heritage survey. of probably surviving remains of Shakesperean playhouses. He believes that substantial archaeological remains of the

Theatre may survive.
This is a hugely important site." he said. Mr Blatherwick previously co-directed excavation of the Rose, the first such p whouse to be discovered, in Southwark. Before that it had been generally assumed that no remains of Elizabethan

playhouses survived.
The Theatre was built in 1576, and several of Shakespeare's plays, including Richard III and Romeo and Juliet, were first staged there, as well as works by others. Its signifi-December 1598 the players who owned the building began to take it down. The timbers were shipped over the Thames. In Southwark they were used

to build the Globe, the theatre most associated with Shakespeare's plays - which has in reconstructed under the late Sam Wanamaker's direc-

tion. The Globe's design was the remains of the Theatre have enormous potential. Today the site is occupied by two Victorian structures at the junction of Curtain Road and New Inn Yard. Mr Blatherwick's investi-

enough to have destroyed the archaeological deposits. A wealth of documents exist, mainly from lawsuits between the actors' company and the landlord of the Theatre's site, and also from the construction of the Globe.

gations suggest that the struc-tures do not have cellars deep

Several other playhouse sites of the Shakespearean age also have high archaeological potential, the survey suggests. Among them is that of the Hope, which was built in 1613 near the Rose as a theatre and bear-baiting arena, and where Ben Jonson's Bartholomew Fair was first performed. Nearly two dozen theatre sites have been located, including one near St Paul's Cathedral where the offices of The Times

stood for 200 years.

"The probable archaeological survival of so many Elizabethan and Jacobean playhouses means we could be on the brink of a revolution in thearre studies," said Dr Jean Wilson. We may learn the exact plan of Shakespeare's Wooden O'."

Shakespeare | Irish told to get their eyes smiling again

By Audrey Magee, ireland correspondent

THE trish will be taught to be friendlier in a £250,000 govern-ment campaign intended to improve the country's reputation

Concern has been mounting that the smiling welcome that was once Ireland's trademark has fallen by the wayside as the tourist industry focuses on making as much money as possible from the millions who visit Ireland each year.

Government and tourism agencies plan to offer tuition reminding hoteliers and restaurateurs how to be friendly. The campaign, which is to be completed by the start of summer, follows complaints from visitors that the Irish are noticeably less welcoming than they used to be.

A decade ago visitors to bed-and-breakfast establishments were likely to be greeted with a glass of whiskey and offered a place at the family dinner table. Now the tourist is more likely to be directed to a boxy room with tea-making facili-ties. In place of the traditional Irish "crack" is a short conversation about keys and meal times, and the traveller who once left with a wealth of tales about local life has often become just another number passing through an increasingly busy industry.

"People come to Ireland be-

cause it is friendly and there is a feeling abroad that we need to remind people in the tourism industry of that," said John Brown, of Bord Failte, the Irish tourism board.

The number of tourists visit-ing Ireland doubled to 5 million between 1988 and 1997. The industry predicts that 6 million will arrive this year and 7 million in 2002. Over the next four months workers in the industry will be sent guidance outlining the way in which they should welcome them and deal with their com-

Surveys of the visitors have repeatedly shown that they are attracted by the famed warmth and spontaneity of the Irish people. Most say that they enjoyed their holidays, but the Irish Tourist Industry Confederation gave warning this week that the tourism boom risked "prompting an impersonal reaction from the population".
One owner of a B&B in Gal-

way, who declined to be named, said that she doubted the campaign would make much difference: "People want to sit and chat for ages. They are in holiday mode, but we have beds to make, children to attend to and we really don't have time. It's a pity, but it's

Salvavore Ferragamo

SALE NOW ON

Cartoon capers force Disney recall

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

THE Walt Disney Company has recalled 3.4 million copies of a cartoon video be-cause two of its 110,000 frames contain unspecified "objectionable" images.

The offending frames in The Rescuers, a story about two mice saving a young girl on a riverboat, are visible only to very careful viewers. Each doctored image flashes by in a thirtieth of a second, a cackes woman said, adding that the recall. necessary for the company "to keep its promise to families that they can trust

and rely on the Disney brand.

Rumours of sabotage in the studio's

giant animation division have surfaced before, but never been proved. They include some of the more imaginative plot twists in cartoon mythology, including a glimpse of a priest with an erect penis in The Little Mermaid, the appearance of the word "sex" in a cloud of dust in The Lion King, and an exhortation from Aladdm for "good teenagers" to "take off your

clothes The claims were first circulated by the American Life League, a fundamentalist Christian group opposed to abortion and to what it saw as Disney's betrayal of its pro-family stance with such policies as health benefits for the partners of gay em-ployees. Sensing the presence of latter-

day Luddites in the bowels of a corporate giant, The Washington Post, among other newspapers, brought the claims to nation-

Aladdin's apparent naughtiness was traced by The Wall Street Journal to two young men, one in Colorado and one in lowa claiming to have heard the order to undress. Instead of "Good teenagers. take off your clothes," however, most listeners heard, "Scat good tiger. Take off and go." The supposedly erect member in The Little Mermaid is in fact a knobbly knee emerging briefly from under a cas-

sock, Disney and its defenders insist. The presence of the word "sex" anybere in The Lion King remains moot.

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with 110 pology.
alist of

Cook keeps his mind on busy week ahead

Foreign Secretary hopes Yemen and Europe will avert media spotlight, reports Roland Watson

ROBIN COOK will seek today to concentrate on "government rather than gossip" as he tries to put the headlines about his failed marriage behind him. The Foreign Secretary's

friends insisted yesterday that, despite the revelations of his former wife, Mr Cook's mind was firmly focused on his job. He spent the weekend at Chevening, his government country retreat but will return to the political limelight today at the start of a busy week of of-

ficial and party engagements. It will begin this afternoon with a Commons statement on the crisis in Yemen, and will finish on Saturday with a vig-orous defence of Tony Blair and the Government to party activists. Mr Cook's friends hope that the programme, which includes a mid-week trip to The Hague, will refocus attention on his public role rather than his private life.

His speech on Saturday, to Labour's National Policy Forum, which he chairs, is also designed to scotch the suggestion that he is a less-than-wholehearted member of the new Labour project.

This is a modern Government, which is delivering more help to the socially excluded than we managed under some old Labour Govern-ments," he will tell the party gathering in Swansea. He will say that the working families tax credit and the increase in child benefit are two ways in which the Government is "confidently and imaginatively" tackling issues faced by the less well-off.

Mr Cook will also seek to change the perception that he views Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, as a "longstand-ing adversary", in his former wife's words, by praising some of his key policies.

Mr Cook spent yesterday drafting his Commons statement, and spoketo the Yemeni Prime Minsiter. He did not

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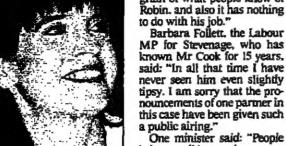
ask for The Sunday Times. which carried extracts from his former wife's book, to be faxed to him on Saturday night, nor did he read it yesterday, said a friend authorised

on Wednesday Mr Cook
will travel to The Hague as the
latest part of a tour of European capitals to talk to EU Goverruments about the aftermath

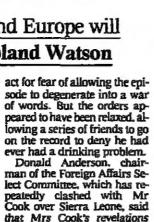
of the bombing of Iraq.

However, his tenure at the Foreign Office is likely to come in for criticism when Sir David Gore-Booth, the former High Commissioner in New Delhi, gives evidence to the Foreign Affairs Select Commit-tee. Sir David has already blamed Mr Cook for falling morale among civil servants and concentrating on image rather than policy in a stinging valedictory telegram re-vealed in The Times last week.

Although Mr Cook had been braced for the fallout from his former wife's book, the strength of her claims and the potency of the headlines they created clearly took him aback. Mr Cook had previously warned his friends not to re-



never seen him tipsy



eyes of Labour MPs. "Apart from the drink allega-tion — which I personally find totally incredible and which must cast doubt on the other ailegations as a result - all these matters have been well trailed," he said. "They are most unlikely to damage the Foreign Secretary either with the Parliamentary Labour Party or with his foreign counter-

would leave the Foreign Secre-

tary "undiminished" in the

Karen Buck, the MP for Regents Park and Kensington North, who worked closely with Mr Cook during the late 1980s, said that she did not recognise the portrait painted by his ex-wife. "He was certainly not a drinker. He was one of the most absternious MPs I know," she said. She added that supporters would rally to Mr Cook. "The book will be seen as genuinely unfair. It goes completely against the grain of what people know of Robin. and also it has nothing

to do with his job."
Barbara Follett, the Labour MP for Stevenage, who has known Mr Cook for 15 years, said: "In all that time I have never seen him even slightly tipsy. I am sorry that the pro-nouncements of one partner in this case have been given such

behave well in marriages, people behave badly in marriages. But this is an awful breach of the sort of intimacy that we take for granted."

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His and hers: the rival reactions

By GILLIAN HARRIS AND JASON ALLARDYCE

FRIENDS of Margaret Cook claimed yesterday that her portrayal of the Foreign Secretary as a drunken, politically expedient serial adulterer was

They denied that she was a scorned wife seeking revenge. "From what Margaret has told me it could have been an awful lot worse," said one. "I would say Robin has got off lightly. The stuff in the papers

Supporters of Robin Cook dismissed his wife's account of their marriage breakdown as "absolute nonsense" and claimed that some of the accusations levelled against the Foreign Secretary were false. A close friend said: "I have

known Robin for more than

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WHAT FRIENDS SAY

20 years and I genuinely do not recognise the man as he is portrayed in this book. I have never seen him drunk or the worse for wear. And to say he was not functioning around 1987 is ridiculous, because at that time he was appointed Shadow Health Minister and he was running rings around

the Tories." If Mrs Cook had any doubts about disclosing the secrets of her former husband's private life, she disguised them yesterday. As she strode out of her 17th-century home in Edinburgh, accompanied by her new partner, Robin Howie, she smiled broadly but declined to comment on the storm of publicity generated by the publication of her autobiography. A Slight and Del-

icate Creature. Mrs Cook, a consultant haematologist at St John's Hospital in Livingston, West Lothian, was aware of the impact of her revelations, which include claims that her former husband had a string of extramarital affairs, beginning in 1974 when Mrs Cook was

pregnant with their second

Earlier, Mr Howie, a retired company director who met Mrs Cook through a dating agency last August, arrived at her home bearing a bundle of newspapers, almost all of which featured Mr Cook's alleged philandering

women. She has got it all out. She wrote in a white-hot rage and thought that this story would be of considerable interest to other

women. She seems very happy now?

on the front page. Reading them, Mrs Cook could be left in no doubt that her book will eign Secretary but possibly

damage his career. Friends insist that Mrs Cook did not intend to jeopardise her former husband's job with her book, which evolved into an autobiography after her attempts at writ-

She seems very happy now. She has moved on, as she says

ing a novel about political

She wrote the book for two

reasons," said one friend, who

declined to be named. "The

first was she was in a white-hot rage that she had been left by Robin Cook. The second

was that once she had calmed

down, she thought that this was a story which would be of considerable interest to other

marriages collapsed.

But those in Mr. Cook's camp believe the acidic tone of the book is evidence that Mrs Cook has not put the painful events of 1997 behind her. It is understood that the book's publication has also caused tension between Mrs Cook and her sons. Christo-

pher, 25, a lawyer who lives with her in Edinburgh, and Peter, an engineering student at Aberdeen University. According to a friend, her sons tried to discourage her

from writing the book and were disappointed when they failed. Although Christopher and Peter were hurt by their parents' divorce, they have maintained good relation-ships with both. They did not attend Mr Cook's secret wedding to Gaynor Regan last April but gave him cufflinks from Selfridges as a present.

One supporter said the book's publication was designed to harm the Foreign Secretary and could have a knock-on effect of upsetting their sons. "He did not need this, the boys did not need this and the Government did not need this," he said.

But he added that the revelations would not detract the Foreign Secretary from his du ties and his new life with Gaynor. "He's happily married and getting on with his job. His ambition is to be the longest serving Foreign Secretary and he's doing a superb job and has the support of the









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objiness.

SREE

Public revenge can be so sweet – and so lucrative

HISTORY is littered with the ruined reputations of men who have indulged in extramarital affairs while carelessunderestimating their wives' capacity to extract re-

Margaret Cook yesterday joined a list of notorious avengers who have punished their famous husbands in the most damaging way possible - in the full glare of the media. But while Mrs Cook may

now be a rumoured £175,000 better off from the serialisation of her book, she may live to regret executing such a ruthless character assassination.

Diana, Princess of Wales, the most famous wronged wife of the modern age, privately admitted that she later wished she had not castigated her husband, his mistress and the entire Royal Family in her Panorama interview.

While bitterness can fade, the printed word is immortal - and can be read years later by bewildered children who are forced to relive the breakdown of their parent's mar-

REJECTED WOMEN

who have turned revenge into a veritable boom industry. Lady Graham-Moon, who cut up her husband's suits and distributed his wine cellar on the doorsteps of their country neighbours after discovering his infidelity, became an overnight celebrity and regularly appears on television and radio shows talking about the

Penclope Mortimer achieved priceless publicity when she chose to expose the womanising of her former husband, the playwright John Mortimer, in her candid autobiogra-

Many women have found positive ways to channel their pain. Patsy Wilcox, who initially was incandescent with rage when her husband, Desmond. left her for her best friend, Esther Rantzen, calmed down and went on to write a book to help others through the trauma of divorce.

In it, she refused to attack Ms Rantzen personally, but described in detail about lying awake at night weeping into her pillow and subtly mentions that betrayal by a close

friend is one of the most traumatic crosses to bear. This weekend Ali Cockayne,

mother of Will Carling's baby son, chose to tell the Daily Mail about his berrayal in a gentle, yet devastating interview. Crucially, Ms Cockayne is never spiteful about Carling and insists that she still loves him, but matter-of-factly tells how she discovered his infidelity in a press release he was due to put out.

Any public respect that re-mained for Carling — who has already lost thousands from his cancelled testimonial rugby match - is now almost certain to be extinguished.

And of course there are some husbands who remain irritatingly immune despite countless revenge attacks. The rock singer Phil Collins was subjected to a blistering attack by his first wife, Andrea, who accused him of ignoring his children and communicating with them by fax. When he disched his second wife, Gill. in another fax, it was duly leaked to the newspapers. But despite the bad publicity. Collins continues to be a hero to his adoring fans.

Perhaps the most famous recent example of a perfectly executed revenge was that of Fiona Duff, the PR wife of the nelevision producer and biogra-pher Harry Thompson. Mr Thompson left his wife and two children for the journalist

Victoria Coren, 25. Ms Duff chose to recount every gory detail in a newspa-per article. She also delivered the ultimate binchy coup de grace by confiding that, when she finally came tace to fa with her rival, she was a pasty-faced, spotty, greasyhaired lump".

The article gave rise to a weekly column by Ms Duff. Diary of a Divorce, in which she charted the disintegration and dismantling of a once-

loving marriage. Ms Duff knew that there were many people who thought she had gone over the top and that certain grieving should be done in private But she answered the charge with a sentiment with which Mrs Cook may, at least for now.

heartily agree. There are those who disapprove of what I have done writing about my ex-husbant to be's deception and addtery." Ms Duff said. "They can have their opinions, but I'd rather they stuffed them."

هكذاءن زلإعل

With no regret or apology, he related a list of affairs'

FOR ten years Margaret Cook lived with the knowledge that her husband had been unfaithful. In June 1987 he chose the day when her favourite horse was put down to confirm her suspicions that he had been having an affair with a wounan they both knew.

"He came and sat beside me. 'Margaret - look, I'm sor-ry, I'm really sorry. I think, though, since you are obviously so upset, I may as well tell you some other bad news. As you suspected. I've been hav-ing an affair," Mrs Cook realled. When she recovered her composure, she asked who the woman was. Mr Cook re-blied impatiently: "Oh, you know very well who with."

Although the affair was not the first since the couple met as students at Edinburgh Uni-



Regan: "She wouldn't let Robin end the affair"

versity, the relationship with the woman Mrs Cook calls Thelma was the most serious threat to the marriage until Mr Cook began seeing Gaynor Regan, his former diary secretary, who became his

Mrs Cook reveals that Thelma had a child about the time of her affair with Mr Cook nd there was some doubt over the identity of the father. band." At the end of the affair, which Theima allegedly fin-ished when Mr Cook compared her mothering skills unfavourably to those of his wife.

Mrs Cook noticed a change in her husband's behaviour.

"He was clearly drinking heavily and his mood was one.

of weary depression. I was deeply worried," she wrote.
Theima is believed to be

Celia Henderson, a riding instructor from East Lothian. who met the Cooks in the early 1980s when they developed an

icrative

MARGARET COOK'S STORY

enthusiasm for horses. Mrs Henderson and her husband became friends with Mr and Mrs Cook until the affair, which lasted several years, came to light. Mrs Henderson was not at home yesterday. Last year, when her name was linked to the Foreign Secre-tary's, she said that she would never talk about her friend-

ship with Mr Cook. Soon after the affair ended, Mr and Mrs Cook took a weekend break in the Lake District. Over dinner one night, Mr Cook embarked on a rambling confession. "With no hint of regret or apology, but rather like-an indulged maughty school-boy, he related the catalogue of affairs. of affairs.

Most of them were women. I did not know, or only knew by name or a voice on the telephone. They dated back to a time when I was pregnant with Peter, our second son.

"One girl from Glasgow I had labelled Heather Honey because of her sugary telephone voice. Including her and Thelma, he named five women that I can recall, but apart from being drunk, I was soon sated with information and may not remember all the confession," Mrs Cook wrote. On the final day of their holi-

day, with Mr Cook continuing to behave like a guilty child, his wife snapped at him to act like an adult. I think my refus-al to act out the mother role may have been one significant factor in the ultimate break-

down of our marriage."

Back in Edinburgh, Mrs
Cook realised that her husband was taking sleeping pills and drinking heavily, she says. The combination was highly detrimental and to my unbounded horror his memory began to show gaping

"He was not eating properly. His mood continued to be low, his wit and conversational ability vanished and I began to have doubts about his perilously on the brink of total mental and physical collapse. They tried another holiday.

taking the boys, Christopher and Peter, tiding in the New Forest. One day Mr and Mrs Cook retired to a country pub. Later Mr Cook made lunch. "I Perhaps this was the beginbour leader. Mr Cook was keen to be considered for the post. "I knew his ambition was

unbounded. I did not believe, In an effort to hold the marriage together for the sake of their sons, Mrs Cook chose to stay. She did, however, end frankly, that he was the right person for the job. He had absolutely no natural courtesy or sympathy and no awareness of his lack of these qualities." When Mr Cook realised that he lacked backbench sup-port to stand for the leadership, Mrs Cook claims that he sank into despair. He had no

empathy with the new leader. Tony Blair, and was a sworn enemy of Gordon Brown. Eventually he gave his sup-port to Mr Blair. I heard Robspeaking to him on the to hear how deferential and almost subservient he was." Two years later Mrs Cook

had begun an affair with Mrs Regan. He told his wife that he ship many times, but Mrs Regan had refused to let him.

the physical side of their relationship. The affair with Mrs Regan continued until August 1997, when the News of the World learnt of it. The Cooks 28-year mar-riage was ended by a tele-phone call to Mr Cook as they

travelled between terminals at Heathrow airport on their way to a three-week holiday in Montana. Alastair Campbell, the Prime Minister's press secretary, told Mr Cook to make a swift decision in the interests



Margaret Cook and her new partner, Robin Howie, leaving their 17th-century home in Edinburgh yesterday

WINTER GERMS ARE BACK DOUBLE ACTION TAKE DOUBLE ASSESSED.



Milton Keynes fulfils Hong Kong dreams

known until now for its concrete cows and American-style shopping malls, has become the most popular destination in Britain for people who left Hong Kong after the hand-over to China in 1997.

More than 1,000 families from the former colony have set up home in the Buckinghamshire city after receiving British passports under the

British Nationality Act. Founded in 1967 and set in 30 square miles of landscaped leisure space, Milton Keynes now boasts a Chinese school offering lessons taught in Canionese every Sunday to the new arrivals and their children, a Chinese church and a Chinese community centre. Some arrivals dream of building a Chinatown in downtown

John Wong, an estate agent who was born in the former territory but who has lived in the city for 20 years, says it is no accident that so many Hong Kong Chinese have pitched up in Milton Keynes.

Many were attracted by a promotional video that circuated among Hong Kong estate agents in the run-up to the handover. Produced by the New Homes Group, a consortium of builders and land agents, it portrays a gleaming. functional city with smart family homes and a gridiron of roads in which it was impossible to get lost.

Britain's most modern city is a natural home for ex-colonial

migrants, writes Alexandra Frean

minds them of Hong Kong." Mr Wong said, A spokeswoman for Milton Keynes Unitary Council agreed: "Milton Keynes attracts people from all of the world because of its international feeling. It is a modern place to be."

With a population of 174,000, the city has plenty of room for growth, she added. As nobody has lived in Milton Keynes for more than 30 years, there is none of the hostility towards new arrivals that tends to arise in older Eng-

lish communities. Sally Lo. 41, and her hus-band. Ping, 44, came to Milton Keynes with their children, Kelvin, 15, and Maggie, 9, in August 1997, a month after the handover. The couple, both teachers, were able to buy a detached family house with a garden and a garage for roughly half the price of their small flat

in Hong Kong.
Although Mrs Lo reckons
that food and utility bills are three times higher in Britain,



Milton Keynes's modern streets impress Chinese arrivals

worth it, largely because it has improved her children's quali-

Education here is more creative and children are taught to learn by themselves," she said. "In Hong Kong it is more exam-orientated and highly competitive.

Our children always seemed to have three to five hours of homework to do. If they couldn't do it all and couldn't catch up, they would lose interest and motivation."

The Los have not started to look for jobs, preferring to spend the first couple of years living off their savings and settling down to a new way of life with their children. They realise that, as English is not their first language, they are unlikely to get professional jobs and may have to settle for factory

Such is the case of Henry Leung, 42, who arrived with his family in June 1997. A civil servant in Hong Kong, he works in a clothing ware-

His wife, Pauline, 39, had a part-time job with a councilrun employment and training scheme for several months. but has given it up to spend more time with their children. Helen, 12, Harry, 10, and Harvey, 8, who attend a Roman Catholic school.

Joseph Lee, a Lutheran pastor and Chinese community leader, who came over from Hong Kong six years ago, is keen to build a Chinatown in Milton Keynes. "If you have several Chinese supermarkets in a row, they can join together to import a container of supplies from Hong Kong or China. A small shop cannot do that on its own," he said. So far, he has been unable to

raise sufficient backing from Chinese businesses to initiate the scheme. He has also met with considerable resistance from most Hong Kong residents in the city, who are more keen to integrate into the native population than to draw attention to themselves.

Mrs Leung voices a familiar opinion: "I don't want a China-

town. I want to be more like the English, not less."



Barry Cox says: "If I didn't speak and sing Chinese, I'd just be a normal person, nothing special about me"

Stardom beckons the singer with a China syndrome

BY RUSSELL JENKINS

BARRY COX carries boxes of trozen dim sum, lettuces and duck in his day job working for a Chinese supermarket. In the evenings, he performs in nightclubs. crooning Hong Kong pop ballads in per-

A fascination that began with martialarts films in his youth has led to the 21-year-old white Liverpudlian steeping himself in the Chinese culture, so that he can now write, speak and sing in the noto-riously difficult language. His ambition is to become internationally recognised as a Chinese pop star. For now, he is big among audiences of young and middleaged Chinese women on Merseyside with his repertoire of Canto-pop ballads such as Kiss Under the Moon and Lover Once More, and an original song, I think I am Chinese. I Want to be Chinese

"My goal is to make it big in Hong Kong," says Mr Cox, whose girlfriend is a British-born Chinese who does not speak Cantonese. He recently triumphed

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tion in a singing contest sponsored by the Chinese Society of Manchester University. The BBC is now filming a profile of the man who is being held up as the latest consequence of cultures migrating

"If I didn't mix with Chinese and speak Chinese and sing Chinese, what would I be doing now?" he says. "I'd just be a normal person, nothing special

The Chinese community is long established in the port of Liverpool. A childhood friend was Chinese and, as a teenager, Mr Cox experimented with martial arts and had a passion for the sound-tracks of Jackie Chan films. He gravitated towards Chinatown. He took Cantonese classes at Liverpool's Chinese commu-nity centre, and left his job as a salesman in an electrical store to take jobs that

honed his language skills.

A summer in Hong Kong staying with friends completed his education. He plans to return there this summer to

make more progress his singing career. He has given himself a Chinese name, Gok Pak-wing, which means "long life". and says: "Although I know I am not Chinese, I'm trying to put myself into a Chi-

nese body." His mother, Valerie, said: "At first all this was a surprise to us, but he has al-ways had Chinese friends and, in that way, became very interested in Chinese culture. It has gone from strength to strength. He works hard and people love him. It makes me proud. I know he is going to Hong Kong in the summer. He will stay for a few months and, if anything comes up, he will be staying a lot longer. Good luck to him."

However, she admits that her support does not extend to cooking Szechwan chicken and noodles when he comes in from a day's work. I don't cook Chinese meals," says Mrs Cox. She is happy to allow her son and his girifriend free rein in the kitchen: "She can't really under-stand what he says, which seems a little

£15m trial for new campaign against speeding

Mothe!

Republican shot condens:

Terror calend

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY TRANSPORT : CORRESPONDENT

A TWO-YEAR trial of new measures to combat speeding is to be approved by ministers and may be extended through-

out the country.

It is hoped that the £15 million campaign, with educational measures as well as tough and conspicuous checks on motorists, will reduce road casualties by a quarter. The scheme, which has been submitted to the Government by Lancashire Constabulary and the county council, is based on a scheme tested in Australia.

Each month, 450,000 vehicles in Lancashire will pass speed checks. Lancashire police say that a 25 per cent reduc-tion in road casualties can be achieved by introducing mobile breath-testing stations. increasing the number of hand-held speed cameras, and televison advertising to press home the dangers of speeding. More resources will go to back-up staff enforcing the payment of lined penalties.

In Victoria, 145 million speed checks were conducted in six years and more than three mil-lion speeding tickets issued. The proportion of drivers breaking the speed limit fell from 23 per cent to 18 per cent. Vehicles equipped with breath-alysers carried out one million tests each year, drink-related fatal accidents fell by 50 per cent.

Speeding is the main cause of 1,200 road deaths in this country each year. While drink-driving deaths have fallen by more than two thirds in the past 20 years, the propor-tion of speed-related fatalities has risen. Transport and Home Office ministers are backing the Lancashire plan, arguing that it might save miltions of pounds in medical and other costs related to accidents. Their support comes as ministers institute monitoring of forces across the country to ensure that they are doing enough to combat speeding.

Research commissioned by Lancashive police suggests that if the plan were instituted partionally, 25 million hospitalbed days could be freed for routine cases awaiting treatment.





Mother's brave stand against IRA killers

Republican whose son was shot condemns 'mere thugs'

BY MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

MAUREEN KEARNEY, a brother was one of the first woman. He knew that he was 65-year-old grandmother, was fin a West Belfast shopping centre last week when she spotted the man she blames for the IRE man suc unames for me IRA's killing of her son An-drew last July. The man was looking "happy as Larry with a trolley laden full of goods". Mrs Kearney strode up to

him and thrust a photograph of Andrew in his face. He laughed and "something just snapped", she said. She began shouting and accusing the man of murder before a large crowd of astonished onlookers. By the time she was finally led away, shaking and crying, everyone was rooting for her.

Mrs Kearney is a strong brave woman. Though she is a staunch republican and lives in the heart of the republican Twinbrook estate, with its IRA murals and graffiti, she refuses meekly to accept the IRA's brutal brand of summary justice. At great personal risk she is waging a high-profile cam-paign to embarrass the IRA and bring her 33-year-old son's killers to trial. Journalists and television

crews from around the world now descend on the tiny living room that she has turned into a virtual shrine. There she explains how the IRA used to be full of idealists fighting to protect the nationalist community and win Irish unity. Now they are mostly locked up, she says, and the new breed are "mere thugs who terrorise their own community in pursuit of money and power.

Those are tough words from a woman whose father fought IRA suspects interned in 1971, and who was a cousin of the hunger striker Bobby Sands, but the facts amply support

In the first week of this year alone five men were shot by republican or loyalist paramilitaries, ten beaten and at least 14 exiled, according to figures released by the Belfast group Families Against Intimidation

and Terror.
Last year there were 237 paramilitary beatings or shootings and 149 families or indi-

I'll carry on denouncing them to my last breath, be that by natural or other means?

viduals exiled. The ceasefires and the Good Friday accord may have stopped the bombs in London, but on Northern Ireland's grim estates the vio-

Mrs Kearney's son was one of 55 people killed by terrorists last year — the worst total since 1994. A fearless, outspo-ken man who lived for football, his "crime" was to pick fights in puls first with the man accosted by his mother and later with the commander of the IRA's North Belfast brigade, who had beaten up a

in trouble. He had received ed a senior IRA man to plead for her son, but was told: "I'm sorry. It's out of my hands." Mr Kearney briefly fled to London, but returned because he had three children living in

The IRA came just after mid-night on Sunday, July 19. Eight men burst into his eighth-floor flat in North Belfast's New Lodge area as he was cradling his two-week-old daughter.

One man held his girlfriend, Lisa. The rest dragged him into the stairwell and shot him through both knees with a .45

revolver, severing an artery.
Before leaving, the gang cut
the telephone wire and
jammed the lift doors. Other IRA men were guarding the floors below, and three girls were on hand to take away the weapons. By the time that Lisa could summon help, her part-ner had bled to death.

The following month Mrs Kearney used her contacts to obtain a meeting with the IRA command staff and demand an explanation. Seven weeks later she received some an-

They were very respectful and shamefaced," she said. They apologised for the murder. They said the attack was sanctioned by the command-ing officer of the Belfast brigade at the request of the North Belfast commander, but was never meant to end in her son's death. They denied that the lift was jammed, said



Maureen Kearney beside the grave of her son Andrew, who bled to death after being shot by the IRA for picking fights with the wrong men

an ambulance forgot. Mrs Kearney accepts none of that. She is still heartbroken. She removes all the clocks in her

does not relive the events of caped, and claimed that the man who was supposed to call son was killed by her "own people", and merely for revenge, makes it particularly But she is determined to con-

the real danger that the IRA will silence her. They think they are getting away with it. but not, as long as I'm alive," she said. Publicly denouncing the IRA was hard - "it's like condemning my own family"

other means". She has five other children and 17 grandchil-

breath, be that by natural or

Few in Mrs Kearney's terrorised community dare to back her publicly, but she says she is receiving "marvellous support" through letters, teleproaching her in the streets. Most people say, 'Keep on going. I've not had one person who disagrees with what I've

Terror calendar keeps a date with gunmen

THE IRA has published a calendar showing photographs of terrorists wielding weap ons on every page. A Unionist ing new year message to the people of Northern Ireland.

Jeffrey Donaldson, the Ulster Unionist Party MP for Lagan Valley, said that the Republican Resistance Calen dar for 1999 was "a sickening reminder of the potential for terror which still exists within the republican movement, despite the Good Friday accord. Ian Paisley Jur, the Democratic Unionist Party's justice spokesman, said that the £10 calendar showed that the IRA

months show terrorists brandishing AK47 assault rifles. loading rocket launchers and adopti ng a variety of other menacing poses

A senior republican in West

Belfast, who sent copies to friends in Boston, New York and Sydney, said yesterday. "It's a reminder to all nationalists, particularly the younger live through before the first IRA ceasefire [August 1994]. "It might upset some Union-

was still an organisation of ists, but they certainly don't

killers with no thought of cause offence to the people in the areas where I live and frethe interest. We've probably got a bestseller on our hands."

Mr Donaldson, who had a relative murdered by the IRA, said: "I suggest that the Secretary of State IMo Mowlami should put a copy of this calendar on her wall as a reminder of the need for decom-

missioning.
"I think the calendar, along with the thinly veiled threats recently issued through Re-publican News, demonstrates that the IRA is still wedded to violence." The IRA said in its



Sales of the calendar suggest it will be a bestseller, says a senior republican in Belfast

newspaper An Phoblacht on January 7 that there was growing frustration" within the republican movement. It accused Unionist leaders of was threatening a return to vi-

that caused the collapse of its last ceasefire in 1996. Unionists said that the IRA

olence unless they dropped their demand that republicans begin disarming before Sinn Fein joins Northern Ireland's Assembly.

Adams may meet Australian leader

KIM BEAZLEY, Australia's ter. resisting pressure to set up Labor Opposition leader, is willing to meet Gerry Adams

The Sinn Fein president, who was once banned from the country because of the IRA's violence, has been grantzo a visa to begin an eigni-day tour in Sydney on February 15. He will also visit Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne and Perth. Mr Beazley said he would meet Mr Adams if invit-

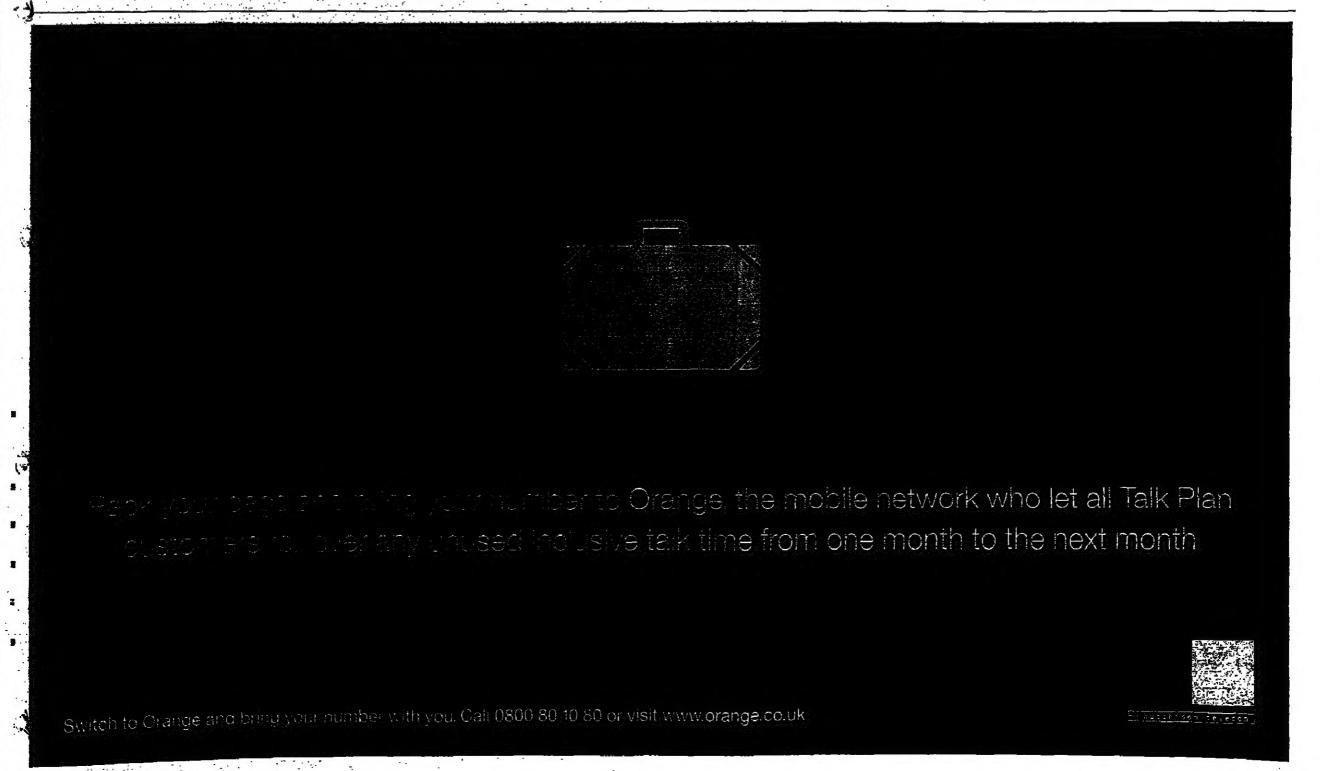
ed to do so. A spokesman for John Howard, the Prime Minister, said it was uncertain whether he would agree to talks because of Mr Adams's failure directly to condemn IRA violence, The Sunday Age report-

With David Trimble, the Northern Ireland First Minis-

an executive at Stormont because of the IRA's refusal to begin decommissioning its weapons, the transfer of legislative powers to Belfast is expected to be delayed. The Assembly is due to meet again on January

The IRA has insisted that there will be no disarmament, but British and Irish government demands on the republican leadership to make some sort of move are likely to intensify as Mr Adams prepares to travel to Sydney.

He said: "Like other conflict resolution processes, the international community played a significant role in consolidating and building on the efforts that are being made to achieve a democratic peace settlement."



Call for three months of paid parental leave

up at the Government's request to help employees and employers to achieve a better balance between work and family life is threatening to become a major embarrassment

to ministers.
At its official launch in London today the National Work-Life Forum, which is backed by voluntary groups and leading employers such as BT. Midland Bank and Lloyds TSB, will call on the Government to ensure that all parents are given three months' paid parental leave when they have a baby or adopt a child.

Parental leave is to be introduced in December, when Britain adopts the European Union's social chapter. Although there are rumours that the Downing Street Policy Unit is considering making one or two weeks of parental leave paid, there is no indication that the entire period will be. A consultation document on the highly contentious issue is expected in the spring.

Banle lines are being drawn between the TUC-backed Paid Parental Leave Campaign,

Campaign group set up by Labour could embarrass minister with its views, reports Alexandra Frean

the Government £300 million

den on industry, however,

could be up to £2.5 billion. The

cost to employees would be the

equivalent of an extra 0.22 per

cent on their national insur-

be enormous benefits to com-

panies and individuals in

terms of reduced stress and ab-

senteeism. The Institute for

Employment Studies has esti-

mated that the annual cost to

industry of employees taking time off to care for dependent

relatives is £50 million a year.

Life Forum is likely to face con-

siderable government opposi-

tion to its proposal on parental

leave, it will face less resist-

ance in other areas of its work.

There is now widespread ac-

knowledgement in govern-

While the National Work-

Offsetting these costs would

parental leave, it would cost which has the support of childcare organisations and the think-tank Demos, and the a year to introduce. The bur-Confederation of British Industry, which has warned the Government that paid parental leave would put an "unsustainable cost on business". Joanna Foster, chairwoman ance contributions.

of the forum, said: "The one brave thing I want the Government to do would be to make parental leave paid. We already know from other countries ... that nobody takes it unless it is paid."

Ms Foster, a former chairwoman of the Equal Opportu-nities Commission, also believes that people should be able to spread out their parental leave over a year, rather than taking it in one block.

According one model worked out by Demos, under which employees, employers and the state equally share the funding of implementing paid ture of long working hours puts unbearable pressure on people's health and family lives. In a recent survey, one in four managers said that they would take a pay out and move into a less punishing job to improve their home lives.

The forum was created on the back of such research after David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, asked BT to support Ms Foster. He said that he wanted her to develop an organisation that would help women and men balance their

work and family lives. Ms Foster is determined now to help to provide practical solutions to the problem and, crucially, to ensure that it is no longer seen simply as a women's issue. "I don't think people have sorted out what role they can play in making things different. We want to help them discover what they

can do about it," she said. The forum's first conference will take place on January 19 in Glasgow. Craig Brown, the coach of the Scotland football team, will explain how he helps his players to balance



Joanna Foster: "We know from other countries that nobody takes leave unless it is paid"

Man loses leg after motorway accident

A MAN'S right leg was ampu-tated yesterday after it was crushed between two vehicles on the hard shoulder of a motorway. He had also suffered multiple fractures to his left a leg in the accident on the M60 in Greater Manchester.

It is understood that the man was trapped against a re-covery vehicle after being struck by a car that had careered across the carriageway between junctions 13-and 14 near Swinton. It was not clear whether he was part of the breakdown team.

A spokesman for the Great-Manchester Ambulance Service said that the man was taken to the Hope Hospital at Salford, where surgeons amputated his leg. "There had been a road traffic incident earlier on in the morning and the breakdown vehicle was at the scene removing a car," he

Two men who were travelling in the car that left the car-riageway sustained slight injuries in the collision, and a third man suffered severe shock. All were taken to the

with such a large lifer pop-

ulation. We are rapidly follow-ing in the footsteps of the

United States, where there are growing numbers of pension-

er prisoners serving life

The introduction of manda-

tory life sentences for anyone

convicted a second time of

rape or a serious violent of-

fence is likely to add to the

trend. Twenty-three prisoners, including Rosemary West

and Myra Hindley have also been given a "whole life" sen-

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The jail with a wing for the elderly

By RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE number of offenders serving life sentences reached a record of more than 4,000 last year, raising concerns that there could be a rapid increase in the number of elder-

Jails in England and Wales currently hold more life prisoners than the other West European states put together, according to a report published today. One wing in a jail has already been converted into a "retirement home" for elderly inmates.

The oldest male prisoner in England and Wales is 87 and is serving a life sentence imposed in 1982 for murder. The oldest woman prisoner is 74 and is serving two months for

The report found that 384 offenders were given life sen-tences in 1997. The figures were a record and represent an increase of 39 per cent on the average 243 people given life terms annually in the decade 1987 to 1997.

The overall figures in the re-port by the Prison Reform Trust show that almost 3,000 adult prisoners and young offenders are serving life for murder, more than 140 for manslaughter, more than 220 for rape, and almost 100 for ar-

Stephen Shaw, director of the trust gave warning that changing patterns of criminal behaviour and sentencing would lead to large increases in the number of prisoners aged over 60 in the 135 jails in England and Wales. Although many offenders grow out of crime as they ma-

ture and settle down, some recent trends suggest that they are remaining involved in criminal "careers" for much longer, and with longer jail sentences being meted out this is changing the age structure of the jail population. Mr Shaw said: "No other

country in Europe has to cope

tence, meaning that they are itkely to die in jail. Prison Service statistics show that the proportion of convicted prisoners aged 60 or over rose from 1 per cent in when there were 80 of them.

The number of prisoners aged 50 to 59 was 2,370 out of an average population of 60,000. A wing of Kingston jail, in Portsmouth, has been converted into a unit for elderly lifers. It has ramps, sloping floors and wider corridors for wheelchairs, chairlifts and bath and toilet facilities designed for the elderly and infirm. The wing which can house 30 men, was established for prisoners who do not require full time nursing care. "The character was similar to that which might be found in a residential care home, many have served extremely long sentences," an inspection re-

port of the jail said last year. Mr Shaw said: "Kingston is an old-fashioned Victorianstyle prison and one wing has been converted into what is a retirement home for prisoners. It is fitted with the requirements for people who can no longer move around much."

He said the increasing age profile of the prison population would mean that mo units would have to be similar ly adapted and that this would have cost and staffing implications for the Prison Service.

English judges getting tougher

By Frances Gibb, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

JUDGES from England im-pose some of the stiffest sentences in Europe, belying their public image of being soft on

A report by the International Comparisons on Criminal Justice found that, on the most serious offences, American judges topped the hard-hitting league. But next came English judges, with those from Belgium, Scotland and Slovakia, who all favoured long sentences. Shorter sentences were favoured by judges from The Netherlands and Denmark.

Where judges had discretion to impose either a relatively short custodial sentence or a non-custodial penalty, Swed-ish and Dutch judges were readiest to look at alternatives to jail. Where jail was suggested. It was the British judges who suggested the longer sen-

The findings, to be published by the National Associa-

tion for the Care and Resettle ment of Offenders, which runs the project on international Comparisons in Criminal Jus tice, are based on two seminars atended by judges from the various countries.

Rob Allen, the association's director of reseach and development, said: "We carried out a similar exercise two years earlier and there has been : some inflation in sentencing in this country." The report would be sent to ministers, he

The judges were asked what. sentences they would pass in a variety of cases. In one, where a police officer working in the Aliens Registration Office had taken bribes over three years in return for permits, British judges were unanimous in considering that a jail sentence of up to three years had to be imposed, while others believed that a six-month term was

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Delhi vows to curb attacks on Christians

THE Indian Prime Minister, Atal Behari Vajpayee, visited western In-dia yesterday in an attempt to curb a wave of atrocities against Chris-

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Repeated attacks on Christians in Gujarat, the supposedly teetotal-home state of Mahatma Gandhi. appear to have been given unofficial patronage by the state govern-ment, which is run by the hardline Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). The organisation, whose supporters include extremist Hindu nationalists. also heads the coalition federal Gov-

In a rare move, President Narayanan, who is an "untouchable" urged Mr Vajpayee in two letters to intervene. Extremist organisations in Gujarat are particularly targeting former Hindus who converted in Christianity. "Untouchables" and low castes sometimes convert to other religions in what is invariably a futile attempt to raise their so-

Opposition politicians in Delhi have urged President Narayanan to press for the dismissal of the Gujarat state government for failing to protect Christians. H.D. Deve Gowda, a former prime minister, called the atrocities a national shame. "It is not a law and order problem. This is an attack on a religion in an

organised way." Christian tribal members in Gujarat have been the main target, and Mr Vajpayee visited several tribal groups yesterday to try to reassure them that they would be protected. He said that anybody attacking churches would face stern punishment, as would anybody who atLocal officials said to protect fanatics.

Christopher

Thomas writes

tacked Hindu temples in reprisal. Exemplary punishment should be awarded to perpetrators of such crimes; he said in the village of Ahwa, where a Hindu group at-tacked a church last month.

Law and order issues are the responsibility of state governments, unless events move sufficiently out of control to mobilise the army or. paramilitary forces. Social workers urged Mr Vajpayee to introduce a ban on all religious conversions. India's Constitution enshrines



Vajpayee: told tribal groups they would be protected

secularism, but the BJP and its more extremist sister parties have increasingly challenged the tradi-tion of religious tolerance. Muslims make up 12 per cent of the popula-tion, and Christians and Sikhs are about 2 per cent.

Groups allied with the BJP have attacked churches and Christian schools in Gujarat amid allega-tions that Christian missionaries persuade poor, illiterate Hindus to convert in return for money or other inducements. The missionaries

admit to proselytising tribal Indi-ans, but deny offering money. Christian missionaries generally operate in the remotest and poorest regions of India, where they carry out social work and help to improve local infrastructure. This often leads to conversions from Hinduism and, occasionally, Islam.

The Prime Minister's visit to Gujarat will be seen as an attempt by the BJP to tame its more extremist wings. The party came to promi-nence on a platform of religious extremism, but popular disgust with some of its tactics have led to a de-cline in support. It suffered humili-ating defeats in state elections in November and is seeking to moder-ate its Hindu nationalist image.

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (World Hindu Council) is believed to be behind attacks on Christian targets since Christmas in Gujarat. The group is allied to the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, an extremist organisation that played a pivotal role in the 1992 destruction of the Babri Mosque in the holy city of Ayodhya, arguing that it occupied the site of a destroyed temple.



The Pope baptises Wiktoria Wnorowscy in front of Michelangelo's Last Judgment in the Sistine Chapel of the Vatican yesterday. The baby was one of 19 to be christened by the pontiff

Nigeria steps up war on Freetown rebels

By Michael Binyon DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

AS FIGHTING in Sierra Leone intensified at the weekend, Nigeria sent in fresh troops to help the beleaguered intervention force, but rebels ignored African calls for a

Hundreds of soldiers from Niger ia and other West African countries flew to reinforce the Nigerian-led Ecomog force, which was struggling to stem the rebel advance into the centre of the capital, Freetown. Dozens of wounded troops were evacuated to the airport outside the city, where President Kabbah has

sought sanctuary.
Two journalists from the Associated Press news organisation were shot and wounded in Freetown yes-

terday, colleagues in the city said. Nigerian fighter jets fired rockets into the rebel-held areas on Saturday. But yesterday, despite sporadic shellfire, fighting had died down as the rebels consolidated their hold on the eastern part of Freetown and government forces prepared a counter-attack. The centre was deserted as residents kept indoors, deprived of electricity and water and faced with dwindling food stocks. State radio urged civilians not to go outside. Smoke rose

from burning buildings.

African and international attempts to stop the fighting intensi-fied at the weekend, but Sam Bockarie, the leader of the rebel Revolutionary United Front fighting alongside the ousted junta, rejected President Kabbah's call for a ceasefire. He demanded a meeting on neutral territory with Foday Sankoh, the captured rebel leader, who is awaiting execution. Dozens of other rebels and former junta supporters have already been freed after rebel forces overran the central prison.

The Togolese and Ivory Coast foreign ministers set out for Freetown yesterday, hoping to negotiate with the President and Mr Sankoh, who is being held in a secret location. Britain has sent the frigate HMS Norfolk to monitor the fighting. She is unlikely to intervene. "It's a straightforward precautionary measure to give us a ship available in that part of the world," a Defence Ministry spokesman said. "No decision has been taken yet on what, if

anything, to use the Norfolk for." About 50 Britons are still thought to be in the country, despite Foreign

Office advice to leave.

Biko policeman faces murder charge after amnesty refused

FROM SAM KILLEY IN JOHANNESBURG

ONE of the alleged killers of Steve Biko, the Black Consciousness leader, has been denied amnesty by South AF rica's Truth and Reconciliation Commission and faces a murder charge. 🗀

Gideon Nieuwoudt, then' a police sergeant was de-nied amnesty because applicams are required to make a

full confession and prove po-litical motivation. He did not admit any crime. George Bizos, the Biko family lawyer said, which disqualified him from clemency.

During the commission hearings into the death in detention 22 years ago of Biko, which sparked international outrage and inspired Lord Attenborough's film Cry Freedom, five policemen who applied for amnesty, in-

had been chained to a metal grill, one confessed that his head had been "rammed against a wall" but all insisted that he had injured him-

self in a struggle with them. Biko died after losing consciousness and being driven more than 750 miles from Port Elizabeth in the Eastem Cape to Pretoria as a re-

chuding Nieuwoudt, failed suit of the beatings handed to admit killing the activist. out by Nieuwoudt and the others. He was denied medical attention throughout.

The officers say they tack-led the 30-year-old Biko and accidentally slammed his head against a wall. He was then taken in a police car, naked and bleeding, and on the marathon drive lay on a Land Rover. He died on September 12, 1977, becoming

london

stansted

one of apartheid's most famed martyrs.

Mdu Lembede, a commis-

sion spokesman, confirmed that Nieuwoudt had been denied amnesty. No ruling has been made on the amnesty applications by the four other policemen.

Right-wing whites have accused the commission of conducting a witch-hunt against members of the National Party and the security services instigated by the ruling Af-rican National Congress. But most whites have been shocked by disclosures at commission hearings of the extent and brutality of crimes committed by apart-

heid's "securocrats". Nieuwoudt, who retired as a police colonel with a handsome severance package, is currently serving several life sentences for other



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FROM BRONWEN MADDOX IN WASHINGTON

who called themselves loval

Republican voters disapprove

of the drive to impeach Mr

This week threatens to open

in a warm glow of self-congrat-

night, leading senators re-vealed that the controversy

over the important question of

whether to call witnesses was

still simmering, despite the

compromise framework that was agreed on Friday.

Senator Orrin Hatch, chair-

man of the Senate Judiciary

Committee, said that while he

could conceive, in theory, of a

trial without witnesses, "in all honesty I find it hard". He at-

tacked Senator Tom Harkin of

lowa for calling the prosecu-

tion case against the Presi-dent assembled by the House

of Representatives, "a sham

and a pile of dung".

The President himself is clinging doggedly to an unruf-

fled demeanour. He spent Sat-

urday night dining at the Sam

& Harry's steakhouse with

one of his jurors — Californian senator Barbara Boxer, who

yesterday called for the com-

promise solution of censure.

DNA tests on the 13-year-old black Arkansas boy rumoured to be President Clinton's illegimate son have proved negative, according to reports yes-

"There was no match. Not even close," says Time magazine, quoting an unnamed source at the Star magazine, which said it had conducted a form of test.

The magazine paid Bobbie Ann Williams, a former prostitute who has claimed that she had sex with Mr Clinton when he was Governor of Arkansas. for blood samples of her son. Danny. The magazine is believed to have compared the results with a summary of the FBI analysis of the President's blood in the report by Kenneth Starr, the independent prose-

The rumour, which has dogged Mr Clinton for years, has led to new jokes from stand-up comics that his middle name "Jefferson" is even more appropriate than it seemed. DNA analysis recently established that Thomas Jefferson, the third President and author of the Declaration of Independence, almost certainly fathered a child by one of his

The rumour is just one of a host of allegations expected to

surface in the next month as a backdrop to the Senate's trial of Mr Clinton.

While senators have tripped over themselves emphasising how keen they are to avoid airing "salacious material", members of Congress are privately braced for another round of claims, from both sides of the impeachment row, providing an unwelcome soundtrack to their debate.

Larry Flynt, publisher of Hustler magazine, is expected today to release the names of a dozen-odd members of Congress said to have had adulterous affairs. His trawl for congressional dirt, which began with full-page press advertise-ments offering up to \$1 million (£600,000) for information, has already claimed one vic-tim. He helped to expose past affairs by Bob Livingston of Louisiana, who abruptly stood down from his coveted position as the next Speaker of the

Republican and Democratic pollsters joined at the weekend to issue a warning that however decorous the Senate trial. due to begin on Wednesday. the scandal could damage Republican prospects in the 2000

A CBS-New York Times poll found that a quarter of people

Clinton 'did not Great snakes! Tintin the boy hero is 70



Tintin with his faithful companion Snowy in an English translation of Tintin in the Congo which originally appeared as a serial in a Brussels newspaper in 1930

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

TINTIN yesierday celebrated his seventieth birthday amid unanimous agreement the French-speaking world on his heroic status and fierce debate over his sexuality and politics.

In a display of unashamed neo-colonialism, the Paris media devoted much newsprint and airtime to a portrayal of the Belgian cartoon character as one of their country's favourite sons. All described the "Franco-Belgian" Tintin (he was, in fact, about as French as Donald Duck) as a figure who towered above the 20th century with just one rival in the hall of fame, General Charles de Gaulle.

Yesterday, for example, Le Journal du Dimanche, said the adventures of our young hero" had been translated into 58 languages, selling more than 200 million books, since he was created in Brussels by Hergé, alias Georges Remi, on January 10, 1929. Annual global sales still top one million, and, in France, 44 per cent of households have at least one of his books, the newspaper said.

The daily, Libération, was in even more eulogistic mood, with a three-page spread that described Tintin as a cartoon strip so great that it was worth all the others - from Disney to Asterix

put together. French intellectuals devoted to Tintin studies were in full flow, doing their best to identify with the intrepid reporter. The philospher, Pierre Assouline said he was "the absolute symbol of

Europe. I solemnly propose here and now that he features on all euro notes". But M Assouline was forced to admit that Tintin was "a virgin". He said: "If I was a girl, I wouldn't have wanted to go out with him."

A fuller explanation was provided by Serge Tisseron, author of the erudite tome, Tintin Under Psychoanalysis, who said Remi, who died in 1983, was haunted by his father's birth out of wedlock. Tinun wants to be perfect and does not have any sexuality because he is the descendant of an ummarried mother who was herself a victim of her sexuality."
The reissue of Herge's first

collection, Tintin in the Soviet Union, also prompted debate, with politicians and authors arguing over their hero's "sectarian anti-com-munism". Although the French Communist Party announced last year that it had officially forgiven Tintin for describing the Soviet leadership as a bunch of thugs, some left-wing intellectuals still consider him an enemy.

The issue will be brought into sharp focus next month, when partiament stages a full-scale debate to determine whether Tintin was on the Right or Left of the political spectrum. Didier Quentin, a conservative, will claim that he was a Gaullist, while his Socialist colleague. Jean-Marie Blockel, will talk about Tintin's anti-colonialist adventures as proof of his left-wing credentials.

Leading article, page 21

Camera-shy celebrities put Sun Valley on the map

IT IS not hard to grasp why Clint Eastwood prefers Sun Valley to Aspen for his winter getaways. Soon after he bought a house here a cub photographer from the local newspaper spotted him on Main Street and took his picture. When the photographer re-turned to his office, babbling about his scoop, his editor ripped the film from the camera, saying: "That's not how we do things here."

Clint, as the locals unselfconsciously call him, skied and mingled last week in the Sawtooth Mountains with Tom Hanks, Robin Williams. Jamie Lee Curtis and Arnold Schwarzenegger. In Aspen, 600 miles to the southeast, the biggest names were Mariah Carey and Luis Miguel, a pair

of B-list pop stars.

Promoted for years as America's ultimate ski resort, Aspen is certainly its most expensive. A one-day lift pass this season costs more than \$60 (£36), and a vacant one-acre residential building site facing the slopes can fetch up to \$10 million. In

Aspen is out, writes Giles Whittell in Sun Valley, Idaho

the heart of the Rockies, it boasts direct commercial flights from Denver and Los flights from Denver and Los Angeles and plattons of pap-arazi at the bottom of the chairliffs every Christmas. Not surprisingly, the real stars have gone elsewhere. Tom Cruise and Oprah Win-

frey have mansions in Telluride, but the bolthole of choice and privacy in equal portions this deceptively dopey former mining town in the middle of Idaho, a state best-

known for its potatoes. "We don't have a Chanel store in Sun Valley," said a major producer who sold his house in Aspen to buy one here and was in town last of films he is making with Demi Moore and Julia Roberts. "You can't tell anybody by how they're dressed or what they're driving, and if you tried to give a maitre d'extra money to get a detent table a common Aspen tactic, she

Like Aspen, Sun Valley has felt pressures to expand and adopt the pretensions of Manhattan and West Hollywood. Unlike Aspen, it has largely resigned them. To be sure, world class sushi is flown in daily from Seattle, and there is a line French restaurant, Thereafter, eating out extends to hot

dogs. airstrip at Hailey becomes a parking lot for top-of-the range Gulfstream jets, but the essential character of Sun Valley is not yet endangered. "The airport can't take anything but very small commercial planes or private ones, and it will never be expanded," one regular explained. Why not? Look what happened to Aspen.

A TRIBUTE TO DIANA PRINCESS OF WALES AND DODI FAYED BY GEORGE BENSON WILL BE AVAILABLE ON CD AND VIDEO FROM 25TH JANUARY.

A specially recorded tribute to Diana Princess of Wales and Dodi Fayed will be available on CD and video from Harrods and leading music stores nationwide from 25th January. The CD (£3.99) and video (£6.49) feature George Benson singing My Father, My Son and I Will Keep You in My Heart. The video also includes a conversation between Mohamed Al Fayed and George Benson, who has himself lost three sons in tragic circumstances. Net profits from the sale of the CD and video will go to the New School at West Heath near Sevenoaks in Kent, Diana's former boarding school which offers specialised teaching to traumatised children. (Registered charity no: 297114)



hodse can march this i

THE TIMES MONDAY JANUARY II 1999 RK

Iraq threatens to flout 'unjust' UN resolutions

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein yesterday gained ostensible popular support to deepen the Gulf crisis when Iraq's rubber-stamp parliament urged his Government to reject "un-just" United Nations Security Council resolutions.

It also denounced Kuwait and Saudi Arabia as "traitors . to the Arab nation" for allowing their territory to be used for British and American airstrikes against Iraq and de-manded compensation from all those involved. But the 250-seat body stopped short of demanding Iraq's two Arab neighbours be punished as some depunies had urged.

But Iraqi officials cast doubt on Baghdad's recognition of a IUN resolution demarcating the border with Kuwait in a move that will help London and Washington justify their military build-up in the Gulf.

The HMS Invincible is due to arrive at the end of the month and Tony Blair, visiting RAF pilots in Kuwait on Saturday, warned Iraq of punishment for any retaliation against last month's air-

Tariq Aziz, the Deputy Prime Minister, said Kuwait was "an entity created by Britain to weaken lrag and de-

celebrities

on the maj

1990 invasion of the emirate by repeating claims that Baghdad had been provoked by "economic aggression". Baghdad at the time accused Ku-wait of stealing oil during the war between Iraq and Iran and then flooding oil markets

to reduce prices and hinder lrag's reconstruction One deputy said the demar-cation of the border of Iraq and Kuwait, as defined by Security Council Resolution 833 which Baghdad accepted in 1994, was "savage and illegal".

lrag's parliamentary deci-

sions are not legally binding unless ratified by the ruling Revolutionary Command Revolutionary Command Council and Suddam. He has often used the body to endorse decisions he has made or is. about to make. "He is saying to the international community: if you don't deal with me, this is what will happen," said

a senior Arab envoy.

The bellicose rhetoric from Baghdad comes amid a continuing debate over whether Operation Desert Fox strengthened or weakened the Iraqi leader who seems at pains to counter Washington's claims that the airstrikes croded his grip on power.

He has also been emboldened by revelations that the prive it of its historic coasts". UN weapons inspectors were He sought to justify Iraq's infiltrated by American intelli-

gence and has insisted that they can never return to his country. Allied commanders

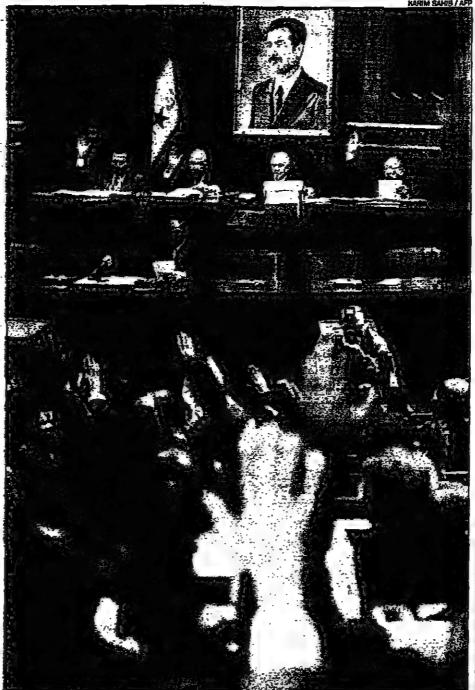
over the "no-fly" zones.

The implicit new threat against Kuwait will heighten tensions further. Saddam appears convinced that President Clinton could never muster the sort of coalition that his predecessor. George Bush, marshalled in 1990, diplomats

However, travellers from Baghdad said many Iraqis were convinced there would be more airstrikes when the Muslim-holy month of Ramadan ends later this month.

Saddam's alienation of powerful Arab states, including Egypt, will make it far more difficult for him to capitalise on the divisions in the international community over Iraq that were highlighted by Operation Desert For Iraq's parliament made clear that its strategy was to work with Arab countries to end the sanctions, which it said had "no international basis".

That task will be made far more difficult following Saddam's inflammatory call last week for the Arab masses to revolt against leaders who had not supported his regime in its confrontation with America



The Iraqi parliament votes against recognition of UN resolutions deemed harmful

WORLD IN BRIEF

Children 'targets in war zones'

London: Children have become the deliberate targets of war. with hundreds of thousands of them actively involved in fighting and millions of others brutalised and made homeless, according to Amnesty International

Launching a campaign to pluck children out of war zones, the rights organisation released a report highlighting some of the worst cases of abuse it found. They included children in Sri Lanka and Uganda being forced to kill one another, often dazed with alcohol and drugs. Others were massacred, mutilated, taken into slavery, or had to watch as their parents were killed. The report estimates that 300,000 children are active combatants, and 14 million are refugees. (AFP)

Falklands deal urged

Washington: Britain and Argentina should resolve their dis-pute over the Falklands, President Clinton has told an Argentine newspaper (Bronwen Maddox writes). Mr Clinton, who meets President Menem in Washington today, told Clarin newspaper that "we have encouraged, and will encourage, these two close friends to get over their differences and reach an agreement in this dispute", Mr Clinton called Senor Menem's visit to Britain late last year " a very positive step".

Scrap turns nasty

Istanbul: Two scrap dealers, who bought a two-tonne block of irradiated metal and tried to break it into pieces at a scrap yard here, have been hospitalised. Eight others who were ex-posed to the highly radioactive material, were also admitted. Six people have been charged over the deal, Yasar Ozal, of Turkey's Atomic Agency, said the metal apparently contained Cobalt 60, a heavy radioactive isotope used in some cancer therapies, and would be buried in concrete. (AP)

Kazakh poll 'landslide'

Moscow: Nursultan Nazarbayev, 58, right, leader of Kazakhstan since 1991, looked set to win presidential elections with a landslide, after a campaign dismissed as "gross-ly unfair" by Human Rights Watch (Anna Blundy writes). Mr Nazar-bayev's most powerful opponent Akezhan Kazhegildin, the former Prime Minister, was disqualified on a technicality and elections were called a year early.



'Lucy ancestor' found

Addis Ababa: Fossils of an apparent human ancestor believed to be 5 million years old have been discovered in Ethiopia, according to a national newspaper. Researchers representing 13 countries found the fossils in the Awash Valley, where the 3.2 million-year-old partial skeleton of an early hominid called Lucy, and known scientifically as Australopithecus afarensis, was discovered in 1974. (AP)

Baptism of fire

Moscow: A Russian Orthodox priest accidentally set off a grenade after drunken toasts at a baptism in the village of Yaroslav! northeast of Moscow, Tass reported. He had been downing alcohol with the baby's grandmother when he handled the grenade and it went off. Both were injured. (AFP)

Weather forces balloonists to delay lift-off from Outback



IN SYDNEY

THE latest attempt to fly a balloon around the world non-stop was cancelled at the last minute last night because of brewing thunderstorms.

The joint Australian-American bid to circumnavigate the globe has been dogged by strong winds since Boxing Day, when the flight was originally planned to begin.

Earlier yesterday, the organiscrs. Team ReMax, confirmed that if the improved

ued, the balloonists were intending to lift off soon after dawn (8.30pm GMT) from the central Australian town of Alice Springs. But as Sue Gascoigne, the team's spokeswoman, said: "It is a launch at-tempt, so it's still dependent

on the weather." The two-man crew, Dave

NET LINKS

ty tycoon, and John Wallington, the Australian ballooning champion, plan to rise to an altitude of 24 miles, where they hope stratospheric winds will carry them westwards over the southern hemisphere, and set new altitude records. They expect to complete their flight in 16 to 18 days.

Time was running out for the launch because the "weather window, the period of good weather conditions, closes at the end of this mouth. Frustrated by the delay, the

playing cricket to alleviate the boredom. Mr Wallington said they had not lost their good humour, which was all part of the adventure. "It's very exciting to be the first at something and this will be a significant first," he added.

The presence of the 80-strong balloon team, and the long delay, have poured thousands of Australian dollars into the local economy, with botels and restaurants reporting record business. A launch tomorrow is still a pos-



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Our systems are hardware compliant using four digit codes to record the year Therefore, the Year 2000 will be recorded on the internal clock as 2000 and not 00. Just as important but one that not many people know about is the 9th September 1999 bug. Some programmers used a specific code to place the computer(s) into diagnostic mode. The code they used was 9999 in the date field. September 9th 1999 is 9 9 99. Systems not using a 4 digit date code could cause problems -



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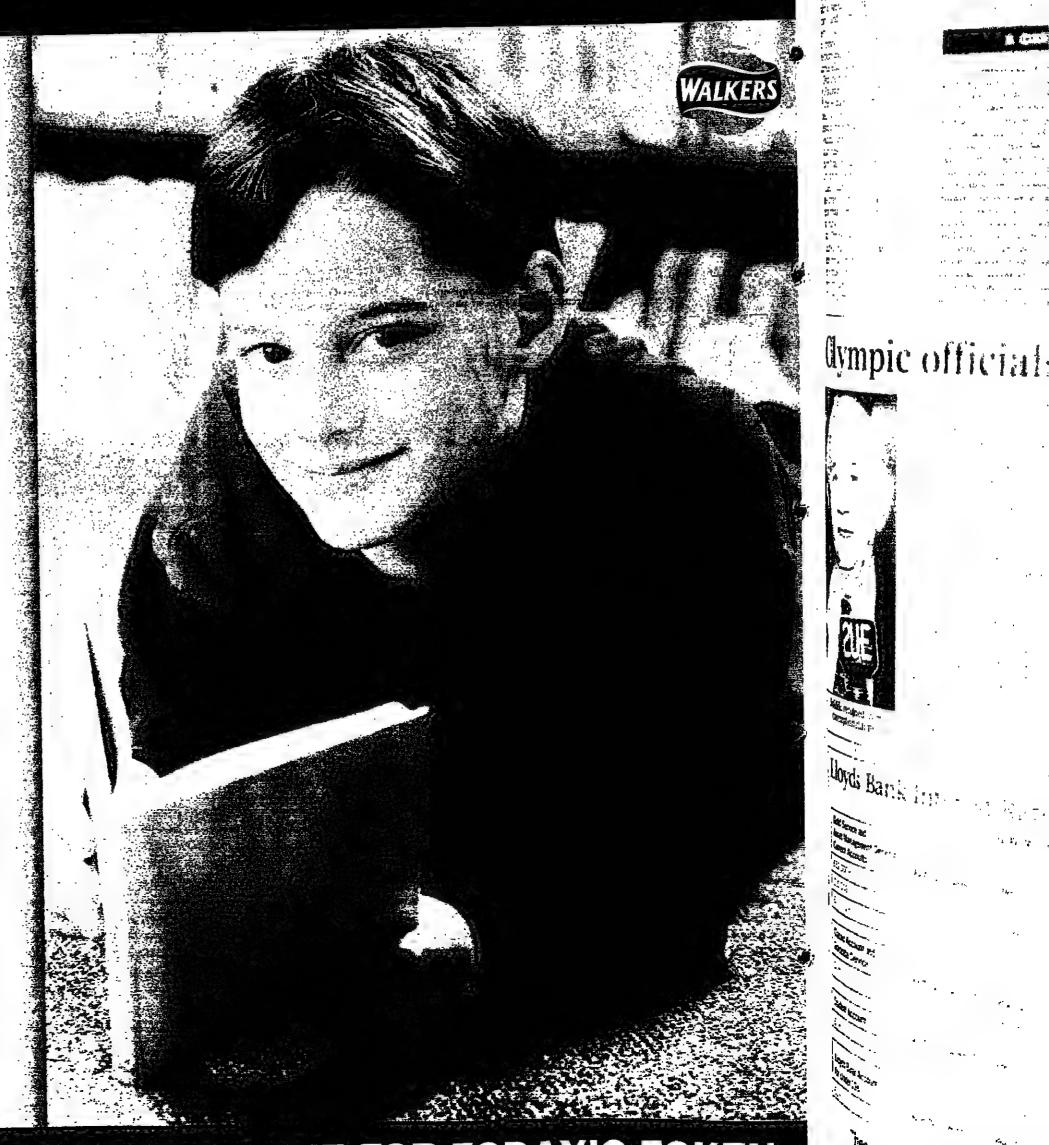
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CHANGING TIMES

هكذامن زلامل:

The first to

Heads m in Bruss

Schröder un

Schröder under pressure to speed up circulation of the euro

le euro coald be in cirulation as early as ext year if some Germanipoliticians get their way. The successful launch of the currenc has encouraged federalist luropeans across the party spectrum to call for an acceleration of the schedule for the atroduction of euro-

The orrall effect of such a move wil be to leave Britain stranded since all the delicate calculations about bow, when and if the Government is to recommend entry to Eu-ropean eonomic and monetary and (EMU) centre on2002, when euros are supposed to ecome the coinage of the || pountries that cur-



BY ROGER BOYES

rently make up euroland. The push comes from among others, karl Lamers the Christian Democrat who was most energetic in set-ting out the future of a hardcore Europe — and who con-tinues to shape the European treaties and permit the use of tinues to shape the European treaties and permit the use of tinues to shape the European treaties and permit the use of likes the idea of accelerating strategy of the Opposition. People have noticed the magnificent start of the euro," he says. "Now they should have the money in their pockets. The year 2000 would be a symbolic date for starting to

The European Parliament eputy, Elmar Brok, agrees. "The sense of community would be boosted if one could immediately buy a gin and tonic with euros in Majorca." Werner Hoyer, a former Europe minister in the Government of Helmut Kohl, wants Gerhard Schröder to

urge his euroland_counter-

parts to change the European

use euro notes."

currency by the year 2001.

The Schröder Government is listening carefully to these voices. The currency sub-committee of the European Parliament will rule in the autumn whether production capacity and logistics make realistic an early introduction of the euro. The Finance Ministry thinks the three-year transition period is necessary.

ome politicians, such as the shrewd Europe-an thinker of the Social Democrats, Norbert Wieczorek, understand that early use of euro coins would close some doors for Britain and

likes the idea of accelerating in at least one European direction, if only to deflect from its almost certain failure to reform the system of European financing or the common agricultural policy during its six-month presidency of the

The motives of the German euro accelerators are clear enough. I do not think there is a devilish German plot to put Britain into dry dock. Herr Lamers knows how slowly political integration will come about, how little can be achieved in this sixmonth presidency period, and how ordinary Germans will despair of the endless, detailed juggling needed to scratch back even a fraction of Germany's swollen budget contribution. If the euro is suddenly becoming popular, then the Government should fly with it, let it keep interest high, make it the driving force of integration.

But the real motivational element is that the Christian Democratic Opposition, nudged by the Bavarian Christian Social Union. could very easily adopt eurosceptical postures. The euro is doomed to disappoint. Unemployment in Germany has just edged back over the four million mark. One dismal forecast predicts that the GerThe euro is not likely to create a jobs miracle and the mood could well turn sour.

dmund Stoiber, the Bavarian Prime Min-Bavarian France in ister, is propelling the Opposition lowards the Right. He has just played his first card: an attempt to steer the conservative parties into an anti-immigration posture. A nationwide petition is to be drawn up by the opposition parties and will seek support for a move against the govern-ment initiative guaranteeing dual citizenship to many for-eigners. Herr Stoiber rightly calculates that this is deeply unpopular in Germany, His

only 1.4 per cent next year. second card is to be played next month, ahead of the European elections: a campaign against the European Comnission and sideswipes at the

> The final card will be played before 2002 - a bid to be the opposition candidate for the chancellery. Herr Stoiber learnt much from Franz Josef Strauss, who never abandoned his ambitions to lead Germany. The euro and immigration are tailor-made causes for a politician trying to extend his influence. Those calling for the swift introduction of the euro are thus trying to resist the rise of Herr Stoiber and his populist con-

Heads may have to roll in Brussels showdown

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

and Manuel Main of Spain - may be discredited and face serious pressure to resign in the showdown between the Europan Parliament and

As Jacques Sager, the Commission President, faes a censure vote in the Parliamentonight, Britain's Conservative grow also wants confidence votes on for other commissioners: Erkki Likanen (budget); Emma Bonino (Emanitarian affairs). Anita Gradinfraud investigation); and Christos Papoutsis (tourism). "Our aim is tollow Euro MPs. to pinpoint those Commissioners responsible for th crisis," said James Elles, a Britisl Conservative.

But the picture hasbeen muddled by Pauline Green, the British leader of the Socialist bloc. The has threatered to call for a socialist vote against the whole Conmission if in-

dividual censure votesare carried.

Although Mine Cresson and Selor Marin have rejeted responsi-bilty for multimillion paind abuses in their administrations there are signs from European Union governments that some commission heads may have to roll. Win Kok, the Duch Prime Minister, said at the weekend that an individual commissioner could not stay in office if a simplemajority voted no confidence.

The French Government is, how-

AT LEAST two European Commissioners — Editi Cresson of France former Prime Minister, who is responsible for EU research spending. one area of alleged abuse. She has also been personally tainted by charges that she gave hurrative posts to an unqualified dentist friend and other close associates. Señor Marin, a Commission veteran with responsibility for huge aid spending, is sin-gled out because of large-scale fraud programmes under his charge

and for alleged nepotism.

Along with the Commission, many MEPs have been taken aback by the ferocity of what many see as

the EU's first trial of strength between its executive and its democrat-

searchlight at the culture of compla-cency which has long coloured the Commission, the authority which acts as the EU's administrator, enforcer and sole proposer of new laws. Highly paid and beyond the reach of national authorities, members of the Commission has long operated in expatriate isolation. While the majority of its 17,000 fonctionnaires are honest and highly moti-

THE Commission is under fire for a string of affairs (Charles Bremner writes). These are the main cases. No commissioners are alleged

million a year youth training pro-gramme is alleged to have been to suspect agencies.

accessed of a culture of patronage

The affair has served to point a

vated civil servants, many of its man-

A CATALOGUE OF ACCUSATIONS

es. No commissioners are auegeu to have profited personally.

Humanitarian aid: The Com-mission admitted last year that be-tween 1993 and 1995 over £400 mil-lion in aid spending could not be accounted for. Manuel Marin of Spain was in charge at the time.

☐ Leonardo da Vinci. Under Edith Cresson of France, this £100 mismanaged, with contracts going

☐ Nepotism: The Commission is

and cronyism. The most glaring scandals involve Mme Cresson. ☐ Group 4-Securitas: Eight commission staff are under police investigation for alleged corruption

over a £10 million contract with the

☐ Mediterranean aid: Multimil-

Belgian subsidiary of Group 4.

lion-pound programme suspended in 1995 after allegations of chaotic administration and abuse. Partially reinstated. Run by Schor Marin.

Cover-up: Critics say the Commission's fraud investigators are unwilling to pursue cases, and cover up the more damaging findings. ☐ Tourism: Three people are awaiting trial for alleged bribe taking for contracts in tourism aid.

agers still indulge in practices of cro-

The Commission's suspension of Paul van Buitenen, the Dutch auditor who blew the whistle on corruption, is seen as typical of the reflex of cover-up. Mr Santer's defiant rejec-tion of all mismanagement charges last week only served to inflame MEPs' desire to make the Commission more accountable after years of disclosures of lax management in its handling of the £65 billion annual budget. Some senior officials have been appalled at the way that Mr Santer's private office, dominated by Luxembourgers, has panicked and thrown up a defensive wall, compounding the crisis with a highhanded stance towards the Parliament and media.

On the other side, the Parliament is hardly the model of democratic rigour. It has failed to clean up the shady practices, notably the scandalous expenses regime, that have forged its gravy-train image.

The week's events are a test for the European Parliament, which must demonstrate some coherence and avert the confusion that has murked its previous handful of attempts to confront the Commission since 1991. Senior MEPs from the big political groups hope the result will be a bloody nose for the Commission to spur if to accelerate internal reforms and accept a higher level of parliamentary scrutiny.



Paul van Buitenen, the official suspended as a whistle-blower

Killing of **Bosnia** suspect is defended

FROM TOM WALKER

A BRITISH spokeswoman for the Nato-led Stabilisation Force in Bosnia yesterday defended the actions of French troops who shot a war crimes suspect travelling with five children in his car.

Dragan Gagovic, 38, who was accused of "ethnic cleansing" and rape by the interna-tional criminal tribunal for the former Yugoslavia, was shot dead in his car on Saturday as he tried to run over a group of French soldiers trying to arrest him. "The driver took the decision not to stop and to aim straight at the SFOR soldiers." Lieutenant Commander Sheena Thomson in Sarajevo said. They were fully within their mandate. We regret that children's lives were in danger. It was absolutely irresponsible and reckless of Mr Gagovic."

In a separate incident, five staff of the United Nations policing mission in Bosnia were assaulted and injured by an angry crowd which surround-ed their station after the death of Gagovic, the UN reported. ☐ Sarajevo: The Interior Ministry of the Bosnia Muslim-Croat Federation said last night that it had issued a warrant for the arrest of the former Muslim warlord, Fikret Abdic. (Reuters)

Olympic officials 'bribed with sex'



FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

CASH, skis, guns, scholarships - and now sex - are at the hearf of mounting corruption allegations that have left the future of the Salt Lake City Winter Olympics in doubt and brought the resignations of two top officials, with more heads expected to roll.

City officials who wooed the International Olympic Committee as it considered where to hold the 2002 Winter Games used credit cards to pay for prostitutes for committee members from Africa and Latin America, according to allegations being investigated by the state Governor's office. "I can confirm there are alleations of prostitution involving IOC members," the spokeswoman for Mike Leavitt, the

Governor, said. Mr Leavitt, who has lashed out at the Salt Lake Organising Committee in recent weeks, said of the sex claim: "It would be enorm-

ously disheartening if it were

Reports of bribes given to 10C members in the form of guns, skis, payments of up to \$70,000 (£43,000) and university scholarships worth up to \$400,000 have all turned out to be true. As sex appeared to join the list, the Salt Lake committees two senior officials, Frank Joklik and Dave John-

son, resigned on Friday.

City officials hope the resignations and the appointment of a new organising committee chairman - possibly Brent Scowcroft, the former White House National Security Adviser - will restore trust in the Games and help to bring in \$250 million still to be raised to meet a target of \$1.45 billion in corporate sponsorship.

The spotlight is on IOC members accused of taking bribes, including Jean-Claude Ganga, the Congo Republic's Minister of Tourism. In return for his vote in 1995, Mr Ganga said to have received \$70,000 in cash and help with a Utah land deal that last week realised a \$60,000 profit

Mr Ganga has refused to talk to the press. Pressure for him and up to 24 others to resign from the IOC is expected to mount before the committee's next meeting, in Lausanne on January 23.

The scandal has caused a wholesale loss of innocence for America's most self-consciously upright city, the capital of a per cent Mormon state where, as Time magazine once put it, "all they do is eat, sleep and make money".

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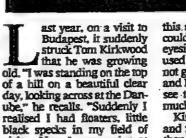
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this scene of beauty and all I could think was. Golly, my eyesight isn't as good as it used to be, and one day I'm not going to be able to see this, and I'm not going to be able to see the people who mean so much to me."

Kirkwood, an otherwise fit and trim 47, has more reason than most to be preoccupied by the ageing process. Professor of biological gerontology at Manchester University for the past five years, he is Britain's foremost expert on how and why we grow old.

His theory of ageing — that our bodies are designed to stay in reasonable condition only long enough to reproduce — has become a guiding principle in his field of research.

Yet as he sets out in his liberating new book Time of Our Lives, an extracti from which is reprinted opposite, the idea that we are expendable vehicles for reproduction does not necessarily mean that we should fall into decline after our reproductive years are over. Rather, he insists, there is much we can do to give ourselves an excellent quality of life into old age, and to extend lifespan. And just as no athletic record is seen as unbreakable, he thinks there is every chance that we will routinely live into our eighties over the coming decades.

rofessor Kirkwood, who read mathematics at Cambridge and decided after graduation that he was more interested in biology, was only 27 when he had, during a bathime Eureka moment, the "disposable soma" idea for which he is now famous (soma means "body" in Greek). There are two types of cell in the body — those connected with reproduction, and those involved in body maintenance.

involved in body maintenance. There is only a limited pot of chemical energy for these cells to dip linto. So there is a tradeoff between reproduction and body maintenance. Evolutionary theory tells us that our purpose is to provide fit offspring, so the reproductive cells win in the tradeoff. The body needs to be maintained only long enough to reproduce and look after children. Professor Kirkwood likes to think of ageing

the "interplay between sex

and death".

"The theory by that you can't have it all you can't live forever and priduce lots and lots of children he says. Such an idea, esptially from a young, relately inexperienced biolesis, seemed unthinkable. Intil then, scientists believed we were programmed with a "death gene" and that therewas nothing science or micine could do

about ageing
Professor tirkwood had serious doubtabout that: "Animals in the fild usually starve or are eater before they have the chance o age, so there is no need for death gene."

The sposable soma theory, with says that ageing is just the accumulation of small biological breakdowns, challenge this fatalism. It has come to deminate gerontology over the ast 20 years because it answer the question of why, as well a how, we age.

Morever, it stands up to experimental scrutiny. Professor Kirkwood and a colleague in The Neherlands completed a fascinaing study receitly which examined family trees among the British aristocracy stretching back to AD/40. Men and women with the smallist families, which at that time meant lower femility levels generally lived the

Ingst.
The idea that we are not particularly designed to last beyond our reproductive years does not dismay him. The theory tells us that we age because our genes do not place a high priority on is living bejond about 70. Bu we can



Professor Tom Kirkwood

NEVER TOO OLD:

ost of us can instantly picture the interior of a B&Q superstore—row upon row of paint,
hardware, kitchen units, gardening equipment and all the
rest. The lighting is harsh and
the air reverberates to public
announcements and recycled
pop music. The essence of suburban, middle-class hell, some

might think.

But for many older Britons, B&Q represents salvation—in the shape of jobs, at an age when few other employers are willing to take them on. In 1989, B&Q began recruiting for two new stores—in Macclesfield and Exmouth—to be staffed entirely by over-50s, and was astonished by the response. Two open days drew more than 500 people and there were more than 600 applicants for 50 jobs. Nationally, the jobs attracted 7,000 applications.

The experiment worked so well that B&Q decided to recruit over-50s in all its stores. Macclesfield and Exmouth are no longer exclusively run by older staff, but the lessons have been used to good effect. Of 22,000 B&Q employees, about 2,750 — or 13 per cent—are over 50. A quarter of the workforce is over 40. Advantages include lower absentee ism (a problem with younger staff) and the experience which comes with age. As one B&Q shopper comments: "It's like having a friendly neighbour giving you advice." They earn about 64.30 to 65.20 an hour.

Peter Cook, 67, a DIY adviser at B&Q in Wandsworth, southwest London, could hardly be better qualified for the job — he was previously a director of George Wimpey, the housebuilder. Today, well past retirement age, Mr Cook keeps himself busy (and allows his wifesome space at home) giving dvice on everything from spiks to garden

He lander the job four years ago after seeing an ad on a B&Q noticlocard. "I'd been 'retired' and was terribly bored, but it was the height of recession and nobody was interested in a60-plus civil engineer who poke several languages. B&Q was looking for DIY advirts, and the one thing I know about is building construction."

B&Q's idest employee, Reg Hill, &S, works in gardening it the Swinton store. Mr Cooksays: "If ie had storned worksays: "If ie had storned works."

construction."

B&Q's idest employee, Reg
Hill, &S, vorks in gardening at
the Swinton store. Mr Cook
says: "If he had stopped working, he to in a box by now,
because he very fact that he is
working keeps his mind active
and it was him objectives to
achieve each day. You don't
age as fast; there's absolutely
no quetion about it."

no question about it."

MrCook earns a quarter of his former salary, but he says he dosn't feel that 8&Q is exploiting its older workers. Paylotting its older workers are the same whether one is 18 of 85. And he believes more older people will be hired in service undustries, where they are particularly good at giving affice to the public But the more physically demanding jebs in manufacturing will mostly be closed to ther.

B&Q says that its customers respond vell to a mixture of ages and experience. Martin Toogood, the company's UK managing director, says: "More mature employees are likely to have a different perspective on what constitutes good customer service. We often find that they spend more time with the sustomers, helping them with their DIY inquiries." A B&Q spokesman



Looking forward to a contented old age: a healthy diet and regular exercise are among the things that each of us can do to extend our lifespar

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2 January Jesus

LESSONS IN LONGEVITY

stop the tyranny of ageism

turn bad news into good by recognising that there is nothing in us that sets a limit to lifespan. We would be deluding ourselves if we thought there was a quick-fix around the corner. But if we can find a way of improving on what we have, we can extend lifespan and, more importantly, stay healthy for longer."

This does not mean that we can live forever - he cautions against believing such a thing - but it does mean we can continually increase the limits of longevity.

The key is to stave off the biological breakdowns, and a healthy diet, moderate exercise and not smoking, he says, is a good way to start. Professor Kirkwood, a keen runner, start-ed following his own advice. five years ago and cut down on meat - we lunch in his university office on wholemeal bread sandwiches, bananas, cereal bars and orange juice.

e sold his car two years ago: he now takes the train from his home in the Pennines, where he lives with his wife Louise and their two children.

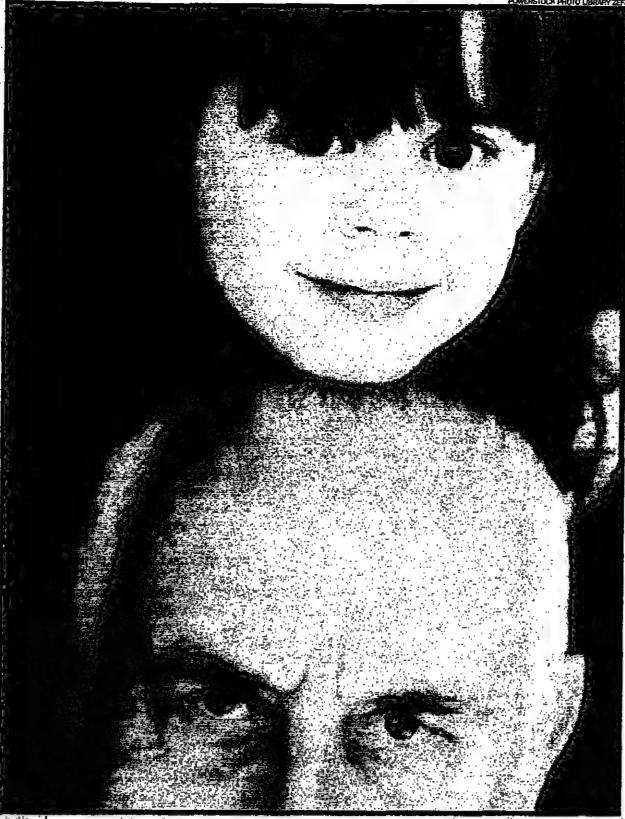
"I walk from my house to the station, and walk from the station to the office, which takes me an hour each day. It has made a tremendous difference, because it stretches me out." However, he tempers his passion for tofu with the occasiqnal fry-up.

As well as providing an accessible scientific picture of why we age and revealing how we can change our lives to give ourselves better health for longer, Time of Our Lives confronts the issue of ageism. "It is obvious as soon as you open your eyes and ears to it," he

I speak to older people a lot and they feel less valued than other members of society. We should be shouting that this is not what society is about. Ageism needs to be challenged, because it is a dismissal of old people.

"Many older people man-age in spite of that to make an effective contribution but it is not made easy enough for them. They also tend to be lumped together, but they are an extremely diverse group of people. Someone once said that we are born copies and deple's life experiences make

ven on a practical level, he says, society works against the aged: "Often, when you go to carch a train, the platform is not announced until just before the train is due to leave, and there's always a scrum to get on. That makes it. difficult for elderly people. In New York, there is priority boarding for young families, the old and the disabled. That does not make older people a muisance - it just recognises that they have needs. Most of



Getting your head round the age gap: "Older people's experiences make them unique," says Professor Tom Kirkwood

velop into originals. Older peo- challenges: that are faced by old people in their lives." Even climbing out of an armchair. he points out, can require Olympian exertion. -

He would like to see the creation of a statutory body to address ageism, which would work along the lines of the Commission for Racial Equality. He thinks that Government should create more job opportunities for older people; and give greater consideration to their needs.

There is no point in build-ing sheltered housing on the outskirts of towns and cities. because elderly people have limited mobility and transport is a problem. If they are in

town, they can walk to the shops, which gives them exercise, and they are not cut off

Ageism, he suggests, could stem from our reluctance to confront the realities of growing old. "There is a sense in which old people are our future. We don't want to admit that we will eventually end up like them. We are terrified of ageing, much more than we acknowledge. We know that the end point of ageing is death, which we are terrified of. We are not as familiar with death as we used to be, because people live much longer now.

away. When you know about whar's ahead, some of the terrors can be lessened. And if we face up to ageing, we can form a battle plan." With research into such dis-

because we keep looking

eases as Alzheimer's, stroke, osteoporosis and age-related blindness going on, he thinks the coming decades will see us surviving longer, and in better health, than ever before.

Tom Kirkwood will be giving the keynote speech at a forum titled Science, Ageing and Immortality at the Royal Institution, Thursday, February 4, 7.30pm. Inquiries: ICA box office: 0171-930 3647.

us have no idea of the physical have a more powerful effect

THE GREY REVOLUTION IN THE WORKPLACE

adds: "Previously. DIY was thought of as a young industry and no one considered older people as employees. It needed a shift in culture to get the idea accepted as commercially sound. When the chairman first proposed it to the board. they laughed at him. But it has widened the labour pool and brought in new social skills." Other companies with pro-

111

gressive policies include Tesco, which employs 21.046 staff over the age of 50 out of a total retail workforce of 150,000. More than 1,200 of its employees are 65 or older. Tom Hopperion, 69, works as "Roller-blade assistant" at Tesco's store in Pitsea. Essex. He skates down the aisles to locate things that customers realise they have forgotten on getting to the till.

A company spokesman says: Tesco likes to believe it operates as a meritocracy in which anyone can hold a job as long as they have takent. Tesco does not discriminate against, or in favour of, older employees, but it does believe their experience is a vital asset. They can be better at dealing with people, both customers and staff, are more committed and loyal, and are more responsible and reliable than young staff."

ICL, the computer group, rethought its policy on recruitment after losing staff to early retirement and set about winning back their lost expertise. Who better to tackle the threat of the millennium bug than the people who originally programmed the computers in the 1900s and 1970s? Choice Hotels, meanwhile, actively recruits older workers and makes a point of inviting applications from people of all ages. The Government hopes that



DIY adviser Peter Cook, 67

others will follow their lead. It has been consulting on age dis-crimination at work since the general election, and is soon to bring in a voluntary code. Andrew Smith, the Employ-

ment Minister, says: "To base employment decisions on preconceived ideas about people's age, rather than on their skills and abilities, is to waste the talents of a large part of the population. In ten years, more than a quarter of the workforce will be aged over 50. That is a huge resource, for business and for strictive phrases such as

the country. But it could be wasted if we do not tackle the way stereotyping based on age wrongly excludes people from jobs and training."
By 2010, nearly 40 per cent

"But some of the changes

of the UK workforce will be 45 or older. Across the European Union, the number of people aged between 20 and 29 is predicted to fall by 20 per cent over the next two decades, while the number of those aged between 50 and 64 is expected to increase by 26 per cent. The Government wants to help employers to adapt to the demographic change by encouraging them to appreciate the value of older employees.

Recruiting across all age groups, so the argument goes. brings access to wider skills and experience. Companies should benefit through reduced staff turnover, in-creased productivity and lower absenteeism.

The new Government code, due to be published next month, will lay down best practice in areas such as recruitment, promotion, training and redundancy. Employers will be discouraged from specifying age limits in job advertisements, and asked to avoid re-

"young graduates" and "mature person". Companies will be urged to promote staff according to merit.

Jobcentres no longer accept vacancies with upper age lim-its. McCarthy & Stone, the retirement homes construction group, invites applications from people of all ages; many of its sales personnel are 50 or

John McCarthy, the chairman, says: "We need to send out a signal that hard work and commitment are the prime qualities needed to drive a business. We live in an age-obsessed culture, yet the best person for the job can be in any age range." If the new code doesn't work

then legislation may follow although experience overseas suggests that this is unlikely. In New Zealand, for example, the existence of a statutory code proved so problematic that government departments which wanted to hire new staff had eventually to be exempted. And in France, where legislation has been brought in, employment rates for older workers remain lower than those in

JON ASHWORTH



Sam Neill chooses his favourite book

When I was about 15 I read all three books of Lord of The Rings by J. R. R. Tolkein back to back during the long summer holiday. They overwhelmed me. Now I read a lot of books and I always encourage my

children to read, too. I love it when a book is so good that it becomes your companion for a while, and then I get sad knowing that sooner or later it's going to end.

A LIFE-OR-DEATH DILEMMA

Many see

placing a

on youth

realism

geism should make us angry, like rac-A ism and sexism. Not long ago, a tragic accident happened in which an elderly woman suffered a heart attack and died while driving her car. The car struck and killed a young mother and her daughter. "What was she doing driving at her age?" demanded the national press headlines.

Well, why not? The elderly woman was a care ful driver. She had been certified fit to drive and was, as far as she knew, in good health. A vastly greater number of fatal accidents are caused by young men and women knowingly driving too fast or while drunk, by businessmen and women knowingly driving too far and falling asleep at the wheel, by drivers of all ages being distracted through talking on mobile phones, and by

culpable neglect of vehicular maintenance.

A good way to test how we value people is to put ourselves in the hypothetical position of making life-or-death judgments about them. Imagine that you are the pilot of a small helicopter on a remote island from which a party of six hol-

idaymakers has set sail in a boat equipped with a radio. You receive a mayday call to say that the boat is sinking slowly in seas too cold for survival. The boat is 20 minutes' flying time away, you can rescue only one person at a time, and no other rescuer is on hand. Those aboard cannot agree on the order in which they should be rescued, and ask you to decide for them. They will abide by your decision without question. You know that in all probability you will be unable to save all of them.

You have spent time with the holidaymakers on the island and know them all, but have no particular friendship with any of them.

Eric, 64. is the leader of the group. He worked hard in insurance after leaving school and is looking forward to retirement in a year's time, when he plans to buy a boat and sail it around the Caribbean, a lifelong dream. Eric is a bachelor and enjoys his solitary existence.

Jane, 33, has been a teacher and plans to re-turn to work when her children, now two and four years old, begin school. The children are with their father, who is keen that Jane should have a real break from domestic chores and has taken a holiday from his job as a supermarket manager to make this possible.

Wayne, 42, is the finance officer in a workers' co-operative that was established to save the jobs of 250 metalworkers when the parent company decided to close the works down. It is largely due to Wayne's shrewd business sense that the co-operative has been a success. He has three children aged 16, 14 and 11. His wife has a well-paid job as a personnel officer in local gov-

Jessie, 18, has just left school and intends to continue her studies at college after she has tak-en a year to "discover" herself. She has no fixed plans but knows vaguely that she would like to do "something useful".

Jeff, 25, is the owner of the boat and has never

worked. He is wealthy from insurance money he received when his parents died in a plane crash ten years ago. Jeff is single, races motorbikes semi-professionally, and has frequent cas-ual affairs. He has told you in confidence that he has two illegitimate children, for whom he pays generous but unofficial maintenance.

Constance, 78, is recently widowed. After two years devoted to the care of her husband during his slow and difficult terminal illness, she feels liberated to take up new interests. Her four grown-up children are rather horrified at her foolhardy" decision to join this adventure holiday. Her seven grandchildren, on the other hand, are thrilled at the idea and she has been writing a diary about it for them.

Your time is up, the boat is in sight and you must give your instructions about who is first to

Several factors probably contributed to your thoughts as you weighed one life against another. You are a decent person and have tried to be as objective and fair as possible in almost impos-

sible circumstances. Jane, Wayne and Jeff all have dependent children. Wayne has colleagues whose livelihood he secures. Jessie has all her adult life before her. Eric and Constance deserve the new opportunities before them after lives of hard

work.

Of the things you know about them, you are likely to take particular account of age. Age counts against Constance and Eric, and in premium favour of Jessie and Jeff. as simple

Placing a premium on youth is not intrinsically ageist. Many see this as simple realism. Life insur-ance companies do it all the time. Newspapers feed us age data in

nearly every item of news. Conventional wisdom tells us that we need this information to weigh the significance of the news. Sometimes we do. But we should be aware of the value judgments we are making, for these are slippery is sues and value is in the eye of the valuer.

I am sure that, as the pilot of the helicopter, you would, if you could, have saved the lives of all six holidaymakers, regardless of the fact that Constance was old already. I know that Constance's obvious enjoyment of life would, for me, have counted in favour of her early rescue. But in terms of ageing we are all, metaphorically speaking, in sinking ships. So if we question the wisdom of extending life by fighting ageing. but not by rescuing holidaymakers from drowning, we need to agree just when and why extra life is not worth having. And, most important, we need to agree who is to decide. As a gerontologist, I am sometimes asked how long I would personally like to live. My answer is this: I want to live as long as my quality of life is good and I can look forward to each new day.

TOM KIRKWOOD

 Time of Our Lives is published on January 28 by Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £20.







The same of the sa



THINK BIG ABOUT YOUR PC. THINK CINY

NOTHING TO PAY UNTIL THE YEAR 2000 - NOT EVEN A DEPOSIT

Hippy chick hair is back, that's



Carmen at Gucci exemplifies the 1999 interpretation of long hair: straight, wispy and the result of many hours with a hairdryer and straightening irons

n the immediate excite-ment that greeted Torn Ford's hippy spring col-lection for Gucci last October, the models' hair seemed a minor footnote. But hair and make-up are never details in a business where a clever cut at the right moment can make a model's career and launch a million imitations.

Looking back, it was clear that Ford meant his models' hair to be a statement - a very long one. Bone-straight, parted in the middle and apparently untainted by devious kinks of any kind, this was hair as we haven't seen it since Ali MacGraw tumbled in the snow with Ryan O'Neal or Cher canoodled with Sonny, hair that signalled — dramatic as it sounds - a new mood.

The following weeks saw more agonised discussions

Toss that mane, straighten those curls. Suddenly it's OK to be a Seventies girl again

tous. Wave after wave of willowy girls with hair to match floated down the catwalks neat and glossy as a preppy's loafers at Ralph Lauren; coiled and raggedly seductive a la mermaid at Jean Paul Gaultier, unconstructed and sponta-neous (ie, only one and a half hours under the dryer) at TSE

and so it went on. The impact of so much hair after 18 months during which seemingly two thirds of the fe-male population succumbed to

age town planner has to deal with in a lifetime, for long, straight locks proved ubiquiing, so liberating and still, in a strange way, daring, was suddenly thrown into question. The "now" models - Carmen, Audrey, Aurelie, Angela blessed with conventional prettiness and waist-length manes, strolled down the world's catwalks with their hair flying insouciantly behind them and instantly made and paintbox dyeing tech-niques seem tired and over-wrought.

That said, women up and



Audrey at Lanvin displays this season's only deviation from the norm — a side parting





Trish Goff does Ali MacGraw at Ralph Lauren; Jean Paul Gaultier prefers mermaids

CHANEL



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SAM NORMAN TV presenter and journalist

Describe your personal style? Very eclectic, predominantly black and slightly Gothic.

What period in fashion do vou love? Medieval. I love the pageantry and the heavily embroidered brocade dresses.

What accessory piece of dothing can you not live My sunglasses, 1 get twitchy without

What are your pet I hate people who have loads

of money but no style.

What is the most expensive item you have ever bought? An Idol dress at £350. I bought it when I was pregnant to wear to the Bafta awards and I



What do you think of current

I love the greys around now, and the layered look.

> What piece of clothing would you most like to get as a A black cashmere poloneck.

What is your fav-

love French Connection and Morgan - brilliant items at affordable prices.

What is your style motto? If you wear black you will nev-

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down the land are unlikely to abandon their wash 'n' go urchin cuts for something that requires straightening irons, gallons of styling serum and hours under a hairdryer.

Nevertheless, something is in the air. Joel Gonçalves, the artistic director at John Frieda salons, says: "Clients are thinking about their hair in a different way. Madonna has just gone from a long, Pre-Raphaelite look to a very sleek, shiny. one - and given that Hollywood's influence is so strong. that's bound to have repercussions. We are seeing a move away from bright, streaky highlights to subtler overall colour. What everyone asks for now is a healthy gloss."

There is a neat symmetry about the way that hair is going. The prenty, feminine clothes that wafted across the late Nineties fashion horizon - all those flower-trimmed cardigans, strappy high heels

gossamer skirts - were often teamed with gam-ine cuts. Now that There is clothes have taken something a harder, more urban route, one that fragileis signposted with Velcro fastenings, sports-inspired looking shoes and acres of nylon, hair has become whimsical, roabout mantic, impractical and nostalgic: a long hair case of fashion evolving with its own checks and

balances in tow. At any rate, a similar part—when everyone dressed their nership between soft and voluminous chignons with hard, the wistful and the relent-lessly new, occurred in the late to suggest that hair fashions Eighties. The power-dressed are fundamentally political, go-getter who marched Giving so much prominence through the Thatcher years might have worn executive armour but her favourite hair was voluminous, teased and styles were saying votes for long. The message, whatever she might have thought she was signifying, was that while she may have been ready for a professional catfight, she was,

in her heart of hearts, a kitten. Whether the return to long hair, at least as a catwalk ideal, represents some kind of backward step remains to be seen. As Dr Martin Skinner, a lecturer in psychology at War-"There is something emotional and fragile-looking about ty. On the most pragmatic levlong hair. Short hair indicates practicality, athleticism. Long, smooth hair symbolises the antithesis of all that - a Bambiesque passivity. It is also a talisman of youth, as women get older, their hair tends to get wirier. Long, blonde, healthylooking hair is even more elit-

ist, since for most adult wom-

sleek hair, whatever the length:

WHATEVER level of disap-

proval one can muster with re-

gard to plastic surgery (and it

seems to decrease with age).

there is something refreshing

about a celebrity who is will-

ing to be candid about these

matters. Singer Courtney-Love had her breasts im-

proved after giving birth to

her daughter, and has had her

The first occasion, she tells

nose sorted - twice.

by Jo Hansford

1 Creme Silk Groom, £15.50, by Kiehls 2 John Frieda's Fritz-Ease Hair Serum, £5.95

3 Courture Care Seal and Shine Serum, £5.99,

4 Tec Ni Art Gloss Shine Spray, £5.35, by L'Oréal

5 AC salon dryer by Charles Worthington,£22.99 -

a good weight, which makes it easy to use; very pow-

erful, so the strong airflow and not the heat dries the

hair, It's chrome-plated, too, which makes it easy on

Serums, gels and sprays can add a deficate shine

en it simply doesn't exist. Wisp-

THE top five secret agents in the quest for straight,

iness merely adds to the whole childlike effect.

At the end of the recent film Elizabeth, the (not very) virgin-al queen is portrayed cutting off her Titian locks to mark her passage from a young. available woman to a desenual-ised, impersonal monarch. This may be a 20th-century interpretation, but there has always been huge importance placed however subconscious-ly, on the potency of hair in maintaining the delicate balance between our notions of masculinity and femininity, youth and old age, status and the lack of it. It was not until the end of the loth century, for instance, that the Church ceased to have any influence over the way people wore their hair (men, unless they were French kings, were required to keep it short and implicitly, their vanity in check). Whenever there is a fashion revolution, hair turns up as chief

> from the spikes of punk to the shingled bobs that accessorised the newemanemated flapper, right back to the pious style of the Roundheads.

The tashion histo rian James Laver. pointing out that women's hair ballooned to cartoon proportions before the French Revolution, then became

prominent again before the First World War to the female head, he writes, was not only a portent but a women'. After a great social upheaveal, women permitted themselves very small heads as a sign that some kind of vicnory had been won."

At the end of a century in which women's hair has flowed down to the knees. been cropped like an Eton schoolboy's and shaved to conform to the idea of the nonconformist rock star, hair remains an emotive issue, inextricably bound up with personal identiel, it defines a person's look more than any other element of their appearance. On another, says Dr Skinner, "it defines society. Think of the tight, rig-id perms of the 1950s or the letit-all-hang-out curtain hair of the Sixties and Seventies".

It is hardly surprising that in 1989, when Linda Evangelista allowed her Jeonine tresses.

HOW TO BE THE MANE ATTRACTION

to long hair. Apply them before drying and use spar- . er two to three times. Wash out thoroughly.

By Lisa

Armstrong

na Rubenstein when they

made a bit of money. Now, it seems, they just head straight

for the most fashionable plas-

to deal with cold feet in bed.

You can turn up the heating

but the rest of you often feels

tic surgeon in town.



to be lopped off (spawning a wave of pre-Gwyneth pixie acolytes), she wept. In the event, the neat, head-hugging outline accentuated the eyes and mouth that had never properly been noted before and finally catapulted her into the superleague. Nor does it seem strange that whenever women (and, increasingly, men) experience trauma (ending a relationship, changing jobs), they

find themselves assuming a new hairstyle as an external barometer of their new status. Turn-of-the-millennium hair is predictably edectic,

ingly. After drying, a few drops can be added to the

paim of the hand and smoothed over heat-frazzled hair. The trick is not to go too heavy on the condition-

er, and to use only a few drops or a couple of sprays

to avoid the hair becoming weighed down by prod-

ucts. The aim is to acquire a healthy sheen rather

then wrap in Clingfilm. Take a towel, wet it with hot

When the towel gets cold, repeat the process anoth-

water and wrap it around the head like a turban.

as if it is in a sau-

ice-cold bottle

in the middle of the night. But now The Cross, in Holland

Park (0171-727 6760) bas come

up with some hand-knitted.

· A DIY conditioner for stressed hair requires half an avocado, single cream and olive oil mixed in a blender. Apply the mixture to the whole head and

than a stringy, greasy look.

with a premium placed on visible signs of healthiness. If volumisers were the beauty industry's sexiest profit-earner in the Eighties, products that claim to impart shine are now one of the fastest-growing sectors of a £665 million market in the UK alone.

Men, simple creatures that they are, have always secretly preferred their womenfolk to have long and (what they fondly imagine to be) natural-looking hair. And every so often, women, whatever they may claim, enjoy the idea of being pampered creatures who can lavish absurd amounts of attention on their hair - especially, perhaps, now that time is so precious.

The reality," says Joel Gonçalves, "is that over the next few months we will probably see hair that edges a little way down the ears - maybe even as far as the shoulders." But the dream will still prove

Straightening irons might be a form of late 20th-century torture, but the fantasy of lone hair is about to appear in a magazine near you. Enjoy it while it lasts.

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man-pleasing cate-

gory, but they will

at least keep you

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sought-after beauty therapists, swears by it. NO Deposit No need to serve NO Payments Pay nothing

Then she discovered the magical gingko — which in those days was rather recherche, although it is now availa-



happy.

There is another approach — invest in a supply of gingko biloba, a rainforest product that is said to enhance circulation. member to take vitamins regularly. I cannot personally vouch for its efficacy. But Ruth Menelot-

When she arrived in Britain from Trinidad two decades ago, her toes became so frostbitten in the January cold that she developed gangrene and resorted to some very strange footwear to counter-

ti, one of London's most

ble in Boots — and the crisis

take it, the more chance there is of you remembering to take



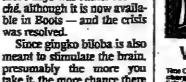
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SPRING PREVIEW

Shakespeare in love . . .

ARTS

and the brilliant Rufus Sewell as Macbeth

Hot tickets and tips for the top

From The Pajama Game to Parsifal, from Travolta to Twyla Tharp: Times critics offer a selective guide to the delights of the spring season







Winslet, sticking to dry land in Hideous Kinky

BUCKLE your seat- line du Pré, systematically belts. It's going to be a puts her older sister (Rachel ride for anyone hoping Griffiths) in the shade. for a quiet life in the stalls be-This is as nothing to the comtween now and April. The big movies are awash with environmental scandal, vertigi-

nous romances, family dys-

function, political ignominy.

and enough whimsy to blow

First over the edge is War-

ren Beatty in his own film, Bul-

worth (released Jan 22). Playing a US Senator whose polls

are sinking in a mud-slinging

election, Beatty's Bulworth

has a nervous breakdown,

hires a hit man to kill him, and

suddenly discovers a kami-

kaze freedom to tell unspeak-

able home truths to a bemused

nation. Political mendacity is

all the rage. Look at John Tra-

volta. Having cultivated a

taste for dirt in Primary

Colors, he plays a lawyer who

puts his career on the line in Steven Zaillian's A Civil Ac-

tion (March 5). The sting here

is that the story is true. Toxic

chemicals dumped in the wa-

ter supply of a small town near Boston have had tragic re-

oured by talk of writs.

Richard Branson to Mars.

ic maybem caused by the glamorous pairing of Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman in Griffin Dunne's Practical Magic (Jan 22). Inheriting witching powers, these two sisters cast Viagra-strength spells on men. Kathy Bates reprises some of the mad obsession of Misery in Frank Coraci's rites-of-passage tale, The Waterboy (April 30). In Hid-eous Kinky (Feb 5) Kate Winslet plays a single mum who takes her young daughters to Morocco in search of the meaning of life. In her first film since Titanic, she discovers that freedom and motherhood come at a price.

Terence Malick finally comes out of hiding to direct The Thin Red Line (March 5), an epic that promises to be one of the events of the year. This idiosyncratic view of the Second World War battle for Guadalcanal stars Sean Penn. Nick Noire, Woody Harrelson and John Cusack.

On the period front, there is sults. Talk of Oscars is colnothing to equal the glittering cast of John Madden's Shake-Family skeletons are taken speare in Love Uan 29). in hand by Oprah Winfrey in Jonathan Demme's Beloved Joseph Fiennes plays the penss. adulterous Bard who (March 5), written by Toni Morrison. Winfrey plays a falls for Gwyneth Paltrow's Vistruggling slave in rural Ohio. ola while he is writing Romeo and Juliet. The other towering 1873, whose relationship with her daughter (Kimberly Elise) romance of the season pairs Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan in adoption of Thandie Newton's Nora Ephron's seamless feelcharismatic Beloved. Sibling good movie. You've Got Mail rivalry also infects Anand (Feb 26), an Internet version of Pride and Prejudice with Tucker's intriguing biopic Hilary and Jackie (Jan 22). Here Hanks as a business shark mak-Emily Watson's genius cellist and sister-from-hell, Jacqueing a mess of e-mailing Ryan's old-fashioned shopkeeper.



THEATRE: BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

SPACEY, Binoche, Neeson, Kidman, Keach, McGregor: 1998 was the year when the silver screen came spilling on to the London stage, bringing glamour and even quality with it. Can 1999 match it? Maybe. With Cate Blanchett, Richard Dreyfuss, Rufus Sewell and Klaus Maria Brandauer all slated for London before the bluebells have replaced the primroses, the early signs are not discouraging.

Brandauer brings his di-

recting as well as his formidable acting skills to a play about Hitler's pet architect. Esther Vilar's Speer, at the Almeida on March 9: Blanchett takes one of the great modern roles, the disillusioned ex-spy Susan Tra-herne, in David Hare's Plenly at the Islington theatre's West End home, the Albery, on April 27. The brilliant Sewell plays Macheth opposite Sally Dexter at the Queen's on March 3.

Dreyfuss surfaces at the Haymarket on March 17 in a staging of Neil Simon's raw comedy of domestic disasters. The Prisoner of Second Avenue. And spring should also bring the West End the admirable Geraldine McEwan in a major contribution to the Coward centenary, Hay Fever; Rachel Weisz in Tennessee Williams's Suddenly Last Summer; and Mamma Mial, which brings Abba's music to a show about a wedding.



At the National Theatre you will find Trevor Nunn and John Caird's revival of Shakespeare's Troibus and Cressida (March 15), plus a rare staging of Bernstein's Candide (April 13), and a vis-it by Dublin's Abbey in Boucicauit's melodramatic Collect Baun (March 18). The RSC continues transferring last year's Stratford

season to the Barbican Centre and the Young Vic -watch especially for C.S. Lewis's Lion, Witch and Wardrobe (March 18), Sher in The Winter's Tale (March 25) and Bernard-Marie Koltes's weird study of urban violence, Roberto Zucco (April 7) — and is pretty busy in Warwickshire too. Myself. I look forward with more than usual enthusiasm to seeing Josette Simon's Titania in A Midsummer Night's Dream (March 25), Ray Fearon and Richard McCabe in Othcilo (April 21) and, at the Swan on April 20, Tim Supple's staging of Ted Hugh-es's Tales from Ovid.

What else catches the ever

In London, C.P Taylor's shrewd tale of the Nazifica-(Donmar, March 23), and the hugely controversial Le Cld that Declan Donnellan staged in Avignon last year town, McKellen's Prospero in the West Yorkshire Playhouse's Tempest (Feb 2): Peter Bowles in a Mobil tour of Anthony Shaffer's Sleuth; Fay Weldon's The Four Alice Bakers, plus previews of Simon Callow's revival of The Pajama Game (Birming ham Rep. Feb 23 and April 23): David Threlfall in Peer Gynt (Royal Exchange, Manchester. Feb 11); and Prunella Scales and Timothy West touring in Pinter's Birthday Party, opening at Salisbury Playhouse on February 18.

OPERA: RODNEY, MILNES



The Royal Opera's delightful Paul Bunyan is revived

OPERA in London might have been a litthe thin on the ground following the Royal Opera's siash'n burn cancellation of its entire season, but something has been salvaged in the restoration of Francesca Zambello's delightful production of Britten's "American operetta" Paul Bunyau, which opens for a run at Sa-dier's Wells on April 23. ENO is making the most

of the gap: a new production of Parsifal conducted by Mark Elder, directed by Nikolaus Lehnhoff and with a cast headed by Kim Begley. Kathryn Harries and Gwynne Howell (Feb 13); Boito's Mefistofele in a new staging by Ian Judge (March 18); and a "controversial" production of Handel's Semele by Robert Carsen, conducted by Harry Bicket (April 19). There are high hopes for Raymond Gubbay's Albert Hall Tosca, staged by the same team as last year's outstanding Butterfly - David Freeman, David Roger, Peter Robinson — and with Susan Bullock and Suzanne Murphy sharing the title role (from Feb 18). Those with a nose for the out-of-the-ordinary will relish a mini-Tchaikovsky festival: the magical setting of

Guildhall School is performing The Tsarina's Slippers, Gogol's Christmas Eve (March 2), and University College Opera will mount Mazeppa at the Bloomsbury on March 22. On March 31 Broomhill Opera will stage Weill's Silbersee in its new east London home, Wilton's Music Hall, in a translation by Rory Bremner.

Both the Welsh National and Scottish Opera are leading from strength. In Car-

diff. Peter Stein's new production of Peter Grimes, conducted by Carlo Rizzi, opens February 15 with John Daszak in the title role. Richard Jones's staging of Hansel and Gretel, so far performed only twice but seen by millions on TV, comes back into the Weish repertory (Feb 26). joined by the late Göran Jarvefelt's popular version of

La Boheme (Feb 25). In Glasgow there's a hugely inviting new production of Der Rosenkavalier, conduct-ed by Richard Armstrong, directed by David McVicar, and with Joan Rodgers and Peter Rose as the antagonists (Feb 6). and Armstrong is also in charge of the first performance in these islands ofDelius's The Magic Fourtain, a characteristically exotic fantasy set amid the Indians of Florida (Feb 20) - two not-to-be-missed shows.

From next Friday Opera

North will revive and tour Martin Duncan's production of Rossini's Thieving Magpie, with Mary Hegarty as the heroine, and on April 27 the company revives Simon Holt's Lorca opera. The Nightingale's to Blame, premiered last year in Huddersfield - a worthy piece difficult to bring off. And don't forget English Touring Opera, currently on a high: its spring tour is launched with Robert Chevara's new production of Macbeth at the Cambridge Arts

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VISUAL ART: RICHARD CORK

TO JUDGE by the stampede to buy advance tickets, Monet in the 20th Century at the Royal Academy is set to become the new year's most popular art show (Jan 23-April 18). Impressionism retains its overwhelming popularity, and Monet is the most-loved member of the movement. The British fascination with gardens provides another reason why this exhibition might well be an all-time recordbreaker - for the survey concentrates on his latter years, when Monet grew obsessed with painting the flower-beds, water-lilies and weeping willows he had planted at his home in Giverny.

A far more severe and classical French painter is reassessed in the National Gallery's Portraits by Ingres exhibition (Jan 27-April 25). But the show should be a revelation. Long neglected, especially by those who compared him unfavourably with his arch-rival Delacroix. Ingres is a supreme portraitist. Equally at ease with men and women, he is a master of design. But he can be deeply sensual as well, and his inventive originality ensured that he later found devotees even among Modernists as revolutionary as Picasso.

Living artists will not be neglected in the months ahead. Andreas Gursky, one of the most brilliant and unsettling photographers at work today, will be examined at the Serpentine Gallery

Uan 21-March 7). Steve McQueen, among the most impressive of young British artists, is having his first major British show of films and sculpture at the ICA (Jan 29-March 21). Yinka Shonibare, a witty and subversive con-tributor to the Sensation exhibition, receives a substantial airing at the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham (Feb 10-April 5). And Richard Deacon, an outstanding middle-generation sculptor, is celebrated by the Tate Gallery Liverpool in

a show of recent work never before seen in Britain (Feb 20-May 16). Patrick Caulfield, among the finest and most consistently rewarding of our senior painters, will emblazon the Hayward Gallery with a much-deserved retrospective (Feb 4-April 11). Ranging over the whole of his tenacious 40-year career, the Caulfield show could easily win his cool explorations of urban inte-

riors an even wider range of admirers. Yet another facet of Picasso's seemingly limitless achievements will be revealed at the Barbican Art Gallery (Jan 29-March 28). Since he was fascinated by the camera's possibilities, and left behind more than 17,000 photographic works, it is surprising that no show has fully investigated his contribution to photography until now. The Barbican rectifies this omission and promises to offer a host of fresh insights into his inexhaustible creative process.



An untitled 1945 work by Jackson Pollock. The Tate Gallery's large retrospective of painting by "Jack the Dripper" is likely to be the most explosive show of the season

The most explosive show of the season, though, will surely be Jackson Pollock at the Tate Gallery (March 11-June 6). Despite his legendary reputation as the hard-drinking, short-lived innovator of dripped and spattered paint, Pollock has not been seen at full stretch in Britain for more than 40 years. So this survey, the sole European airing for the major retrospective recently displayed at the Museum of Modern Art, New York, might generate high excitement. Spectacular loans from across the world will ensure that "Jack the Dripper" is seen at his wild, orgiastic best. Not to be missed.

MUSIC: RICHARD MORRISON

THE eternal quest for street cred leads or-chestras into dangerous liaisons this spring. The Lon-don Philharmonic presents a day of "Roots/Classical Fusions" (Festival Hail, Feb 6), when it collaborates with an African choir, an early-mu-sic group and a Turkish folk flautist. In Manchester the Halle Orchestra also walks on the (slightly) wild side, premiering Errollyn Wal-len's saxophone concerto for Courney Pine (Bridgewater Hall, March 25). And even the period-instrument Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment takes part in a wacky venture (Barnican American theatre director Peter Sellers will apparently breathe new life" into three Bach cantatas. What larks.

Elsewhere, there are birthday bashes. André Previn celebrates his 70th (yes, even whizzkids grow wrinkly) by returning to his old LSO mates for three concerts (Barbican, March 7- 15). An even greater figure, Goethe, has his 250th birthday marked by the fine Corydon Singers (St John's Smith Square, Jan 22) and by a weekend of events (March 6-7) at the

South Bank in London. Galina Ustvoiskaya, the mysterious Russian composer admired (and, it is said,

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LIVERG by Rebecca Glimen



Rostropovich: triple echo

proposed to) by Shostakovich, comes out of the cold when the Royal Academy of Music in London mounts a festival (Jan 26-29) celebrating her 80th birthday. At last we can judge whether her talent justifies the claims made on her behalf. And Olivier Messiaen's widow, Yvonne Loriod, takes part in the BBC Symphony Orchestra's festival (Barbican, this weekend) devoted to the Frenchman's exotic and ecstatic paeans. The University of Cam-

bridge, meanwhile, hangs

Finally, two epics and an oddity. Simon Rattle's tenyear Towards the Miliennium project reaches the 1980s, which means loads of Lutoslawski and Birtwistle. as the longest continuous orchestral piece in history: Nicholas Maw's 90-minute Odyssey (Birmingham and London, throughout March). Mstislav Rostropovich revives memories of prodigious deeds of yore when he plays no fewer than three solo works with the LSO in one sitting, including a new Sofia Gubaidulina piece (this Wednesday, Barbican). And, for music-lovers who think they have heard it all, the "world premiere concert programme" on a left-hand-

ed piano takes place at the

Queen Elizabeth Hall on Feb-

ruary II. A sinister develop-

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ment. you might say.

out the bunting for Alexan-

der Goehr, who retires as professor of music after 23

years. A festival throughout

the spring term features his

music and that of his many distinguished pupils. And the Lahti Symphony Orches-tra from Finland makes its

UK debut with a fascinating

Sibelius weekend (Sympho-

ny Hall, Birmingham, Feb

27-23), including the British premiere of his Violin Con-

certo in its original version.

DANCE: DEBRA CRAINE

NOW no longer a fulltime member of the Royal Ballet, Trek Mukhamedov stars in a new touring production for Arc Dance Company by Kim Brand-strup, The Return of Don Juan (March 1, Sadier's Wells). Mukhamedov plays the infamous philanderer, catapulted out of Hell and into a modern-day film studio duce the last unseducible woman on earth. The Danish composer Kim Helweg pro-

vides an original score. The Royal Ballet is preparing for its annual Dance Bites tour which this year features new works by Mark Baldwin, Michael Corder, Cathy Marston and William Tuckett. Two simultaneous tours open on March I, one in Darlington (Civic Theatre), the other in Bath (Theatre Royal). As its contribution to the Towards the Millennium festival. Birmingham Roval Ballet performs a triple bill (Sadler's Wells Feb 10, Birming-

ham Hippodrome March 3)

which celebrates the Eighties.

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The programme brings to-Choros, inspired by Ancient Life at the Penguin Café, a "veritable ecological extravaganza", with Twyla Tharp's exhilarating In the Upper Room. Performed by dancers in trainers and pointe shoes, this American masterpiece of momentum and energy is set imalist score.

German dancemaker Pina Bansch returns to London for the first time in 17 years when she brings her Tanztheater Wuppertal to Sadler's Wells (Jan 27). She presents Viktor, an emotional rollercoaster of dance-theatre performed in front of a 24-foot earthwork. Sadler's Wells plays host to another foreign visitor when Pacific Northwest Ballet from Seattle comes to London (Feb 22-27) with Balanchine's A Midsummer Night's Dream and a mixed bill of US choreographers.

When Derek Deane staged Romeo and Juliet in the round at the Albert Hall in



Irek Mukhamedov will star in a new touring ballet by Kim Brandstrup about Don Juan

June 1993 he went to town, utilising more than 120 perform-ers. He is now reviving that production for English National Ballet's spring tour, downscaling it for a company of 64. It opens at the Mayflow-

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er, Southampton (March 1-6) before moving to Manchester (Palace, March 8) and Oxford (Apollo, March 15).

Northern Ballet Theatre unveils its new full-length Carmen at the Grand in Leeds on February 22. Cho reographed by Didy Veldman, and based on a scenario by the late Christopher Gable, it sets the familiar tale in the "dark underworld of contemporary Latin America".

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Blairism at a turning point

ony Blair wants us to judge him and his Gov-ernment on performance, not personalities. Fair enough. That is probably how voters will anyway judge him in two to three years, when recent lurid headlines will have been long forgotten. But Mr Blair's test is much more demanding than it appears. The main doubt about new Labour has always been its ability to deliver in office.

Of course, claims (exaggerated or real) about Cabinet inlighting, about spin-doctors and about the private lives of ministers are damaging. Mr Blair has to be careful, not least in keeping a public distance for some time from Peter Mandelson, in both their interests. But the significance of these feverish stories is vastly exaggerated. The Tories understandably see an opportunity to get their own back for many unfair and over-the-top criticisms they suffered. But such allegations do not decide "the fate of governments.

The striking feature of the latest polls is how little impact the Mandelson affair has had on public opinion, not how much. The ratings of Mr Blair and Labour are still much higher than at the last election, and higher than for any previous government after 20 months in office. Moreover, any movement has been from Labour to the Liberal Demorerats, rather than to the Tories. This suggests a miniprotest, rather than any fundamental shift in opinion.

Mr Blair obviously has to demonstrate that the Government has not lost its way and that his senior colleagues can work together. That should be relatively straightfor-ward in the short term. The Cabinet is broadly agreed on the thrust of policy. No one serious is arguing for a change of approach, least of batch of new (and

reheated) initiatives last week on numeracy in schools, fighting burglary and employment is intended to show the new Labour character of the Government.

The key question is about flaw has been its lack of rigour on policy making. Pre-election caution, to avoid charges of higher spending and taxes, meant that there was not enough serious thought about show to improve services. Instead, there were the five pledges. As Philip Gould reveals in The Unfinished Revolution, these were essentially campaigning devices which emerged from testing by focus groups of swing voters. How-ever effective in electoral terms, the more specific ones, on NHS waiting lists and class sizes, were misguided. Almost no one except Frank Dobson and a couple of Blairite advisers believes the pledge on waiting lists is good health policy. It has distorted the allocation of resources, and along with serious weaknesses in nurse training and retention inherited from the Tories. has contributed to serious problems in hospitals. But the pledge has to be achieved before it can be abandoned, or

In other areas, the Government has had to recognise that it will have to challenge vested - and often Labour-supporting — interests if it is to deliver improved services. I wonder how many Labour MPs understand or accept the implica-tions of Mr Blair's remark

yesterday in his Breakfast With Frost interview that neither teaching unions nor local education authorities could be allowed to decide education policy. That was reflected in David Blunkerrs announcement on Friday about intervening to hand over the running of schools in failing local authorities to outsiders, including privatesector bodies. While there are obvious dangers of excessive centralisation, the Govern-ment is likely to have to go further with the next round of education action zones and in allowing more competition locally in setting up schools.

These initiatives require a

sufficient number of ministers committed to a new Labour approach. For all Mr Blair's claims that the recent reshuffle ers, questions remain about how many are really willing to take political risks. Mr Man-delson mattered not just because of his closeness to Mr Blair but also because of his rare willingness to use new Labour language about busi-ness and free markets. That is why there was such glee over his resignation among old Labour stalwarts. By contrast, Gordon Brown has often presented his new Labour economic policies in old Labour terms, Mr Blair now has to spend more time building up a new Labour cadre, as well as consulting more with sympathetic ministers on the Centre-Right who have tended to be ignored. It will be interesting

to see if the length of Cabinet much beyond the 38-minute average recorded at one point last year. Mr Blair will have to move more

carefully now over the realignment of the Centre-Left which he has championed almost alone in the Cabinet, apart from Mr Mandelson. However, this was al-

ready in danger of stalling before the latter's resignation. Many ministers are hostile both to the Jenkins report on electoral reform and to closer collaboration with the Liberal Democrats.

r Blair kept co-operation alive yester-day by stressing his ideological closeness to Paddy Ashdown's Liberal Democrats, but don't expect any big leaps forward. Mr Blair and Mr Ashdown are both constrained by their parties.

The most intriguing area for a hold initiative is Europe. Mr Blair vesterday again emphasised the importance for Britain both of the euro being successful and of closer relations with the European Union. The launch of the euro has increased pressures on him to make explicit his private belief that it is now a question of when and how, not if. Britain joins. Such a public declaration is necessary to persuade business to prepare and to win over the public.

The challenge for Mr Blair is whether, like Margaret Thatcher in 1981, he responds to adversity and setbacks by being more radical. He has no real choice. If Mr Blair is to meet the test he has set himself of being judged at the next general election on promises delivered on schools, hospitals, crime, the economy, welfare and Europe, he has to be bolder. Blairism is at a turn-

peter.riddell@the-times.co.uk



MARGARET COOK: A SLIGHT & DELICATE CREATURE

Boys will always be boys

esterday morning I had planned to write about President Clinton and impeachment; then the Margaret Cook memoirs were pub-lished. After a brief discussion with the office. I switched to that. I had already read the story on the front pages of the Sunday papers, and had listened to the early comment on Breakfast With Frost. I turned to the pages of serialisation in The Sunday Times News Review. It was then that I realised the remarkable

parallels between the Clinton and the Cook stories. The most striking is the similarity of the psychological drama. Cast both stories as novels, and ask what is the core of the plot. A mature woman is married to a man who is a perpetual adolescent; he is ciever, and good with words, but lacks a sense of self-worth, and relieves his depression with recurrent affairs of varying importance. He finds his wife's strength and maturity both reassuring and threatening. The

guilt-free, because disposable, relationships. The wife enjoys the success of the husband's career, and the vicarious prestige of his life. She knows he can never be "cured" of his immaturity or his depressive temperament. She sees that his eleverness, particularly with words, is only that, that he is a mouth not a brain, that he has difficulty in maintaining real relationships. She suspects it will all end in tears, perhaps in disgrace. Nevertheless, she is bound to her husband by the feeling that he needs mother-

ing, and by compassion for his pain. In Margarer Cook's case, the husband rejected her, and decided to marry one of his succession of lovers, partly as a political calculation. The key decision seems to have been made in a telephone conversation with the Prime Minister. If that had gone the other way, Margaret Cook would have stayed; she still feels love for her former husband, even if it only fuels her anger at his betrayal. In Hillary's case, the political decision went the other way; despite her equal sense of betrayal, she sticks with her hus-band and has become his final protectress. If she left, it would be all

By a coincidence, the two men have been left in the same political position, that of a lame duck, still in office, but for only a limited period of declining power. Robin Cook is safe because Peter Mandelson has gone. Tony Blair, a good-natured

Both Cook and Clinton show an innate childishness that could only end in tears

odds as carefully as Sky Masterson. cannot afford to lose two senior ministers in one month. This security is, however, temporary. Mr Cook is now an embarrassment not an asset to the Government; at the next reshuffle, or the one after, he will be dropped, and nobody imagines that he will ever hold office again.

It is the same with Bill Clinton. He may, or may not, survive the impeachment proceedings before the Senate. If he does, he will

struggie through another couple of years as a discredited President, without reputation and with little political weight. Both men know that history will be unkind to scale is different. It is one thing to have been President of the United States, and another to have been the British Foreign Secretary for two or three years. Of

course, failure is

more bitter in the ereater office. On Breakfast With Frost, Tony Blair said something to the effect that Robin Cook was the most admired British Foreign Secretary in Europe "for many years". In my experience that is not true. The European view, so far as I have met it, is that Tony Blair himself, Peter Mandelson and Gordon Brown have been the three most influential ministers in terms of European affairs. Robin Cook is regarded as a competent Foreign Office spokes-man, but with less political weight than most European Foreign Ministers enjoy. He is seen as sharing much the same standing as Malcolm Rilkind, another Scottish debator, though a better-balanced per-sonality. The last British Foreign

years" since he retired. Outside Europe, Robin Cook has made a number of minor blunders: when the Queen was touring India,

Secretary to be widely admired in

Europe was Douglas Hurd. He was

thought to have personal authority

and seriousness; it is not "many

man but one who calculates the on his visit to Israel. Margaret Cook says that he lacked sensitivity, which one certainly could not say of Bill Clinton. Robin Cook's greatest political gift was his aggressiveness in Opposition, but this is no help at the Foreign Office. Diplomacy calls for the ability to establish friendly relationships, and avoid giving offence. Robin Cook is no diplomat.

Margaret Cook shows a good deal of self-pity, for which one cannot blame her. Hillary would be entitled to self-pity as well, and probably feels it

from time to time. Some of it is bound lished. Yet the paradox is that one comes away from reading the extracts Times feeling some pity for Margaret but even greater pity for Robin. It is not only that his

bling away, like a

petrol can punc-

tured by a bullet in some desert war. That is sad enough. It is not only that the book is written to shame him, and succeeds in its aim only too well. It is that every sentence shows that Margaret is strong, as grown-up women can be strong, and Robin is weak, as immature men can be weak. Fairly or unfairly, we feel pity for the weak, even when they prove venom-

ous, more than for the strong.

In the past week I had been wrestling with this problem of compassion in its most extreme form. I was thinking partly about Clinton, about his psychological emptiness, about his traumatic childhood with the devoted but dysfunctional mother and an alcoolic stepfather. I happened also to be reading the opening chapters of lan Kershaw's fascinating new life of Hitler. They discussed Hitler's childhood and the origins of his

megalomaniac fantasies. Adolf Hitler was the only surviving son of a devoted mother and an abusive and heavy-drinking father, who was 23 years older than his wife. Four of their children died in

doctor, Eduard Bloch, who was Jewish, are the main authorities for Hitler's early childhood. After the war, Paula, who never exploited her position as sister of the Führer, spoke of her mother as "a very soft and tender person ... it was especially my brother Adolf who challenged my father to extreme harshness and who got his sound thrashing every day". Hitler himself said that his beloved mother lived in constant

concern about the beatings.
Hitler's father died when he was 13, his mother four years later. Both Paula and Dr Bloch testify to Hitler's "indefatigable" care for his mother when she was dying of breast cancer. After his father's death. Hitler dropped out of school and lived a hippy-like life of fantasy in Vienna. When one reads' lan Kershaw's account, one cannot avoid feeling compassion for the sufferings of this abnormal but gifted boy, as well as being aware of the terrible consequences of his

ill Clinton and Robin Cook are no Hitlers, but in each case something fundamental seems to have gone wrong. Bill Clinton had disastrous parenting; we do not know the psychological cause of Robin Cook's unhappiness, but he has plainly been very unhappy. Margaret Cook describes his reaction to his discovery that he had no support for the Labour leadership after John Smith's death. "He sank into the deepest despondency... he talked of the paradox that Labour could well win the next election and that he would then be in the Cabinet, but he felt anything other than elated. At the time this was apparent to the most casual observer. I remember passing Mr Cook in 1996 on the pavement outside St Stephen's Yard; he was alone in his thoughts, his expression was one of depression, of an inward-looking despair. Indeed. Robin Cook is a tragic

figure. One can feel sympathy for the anguished child that is somewhere inside him, and for his lost hopes. But he cannot last long as Foreign Secretary, and little good can come of his remaining months in office. He is not new Labour; he is not old Labour; he is not the future of Labour. Perhaps it is a pity that Peter Mandelson has gone, of the two men he was the one whose

political future was worth saving.

comment@the-times.co.uk

That's Wendy

AFTER all the scurrilous innuendo inspired by the trade trip to Copacabana by my good friend Peter Mandelson. I am delighted to learn that Wendy is cruising towards an honour for his work with the boys from Brazil.

The Brit, who made an "outstand-ing contribution to strengthen ecomornic ties" between Britain and Brazil, is to be recognised. Señor Rubers Anfonio Barbosa, the Brazilian Ambassador, is to present the "personality of the year" award at a gala dinner at the Dorchester next

To assure Wendy of victory, the Diary has sent His Excellency its nomination, with notes detailing how energetically Wendy pursued export outlets for his country. Ah, Wendy is back. Quite wonderful.

● I HAVE no faith in a "Downing Street inquiry into the contract awarded to Sarah Macaulay, so-called girlfriend of Gordon Brown. Little has been done since I broke the news of the award a year ago.

Drama Queen FATHER-in-law to a prince he may about to be, but Christopher Rhys-Jones (below left) is treated with



ing in a play at the memorial hall," says a source in Brenchley, his Kent village. "One scene required him to eat a piece of Turkish delight lying on the floor — but a joker had sprayed it with WD40. Christopher was furious and stormed out, never to grace the stage again." Matrons at the Brenchley Drama Group decline to comment, but one aggrieved member says: "It's a damn shame. The Queen might have come to see our productions."

· LESS gripped by wedding fever is "It does seem a rather dull business," opines the pink dame, tiring of the love game, being 97 and all. But surely Prince Edward is fairly exciting? "He is very young and I've never met him, at least I don't think so." But ma'am, you must approve of Sophie, striking for feminism by continuing to work? "Royals are expected to behave royally," she argues penetratingly. "I don't want to go to a wedding like that." I urge

Meal ticket

THAT late-night exercise enthusiast Ron Davis is not letting his little awkwardness on Clapham Common get between him and God. The exiled King of Wales is to make his first speech since his career blip at a "lunchtime conversation" in the City at Wesley's Chapel. Should he feel moved by the confessional

royal sorts to send Babs a stiffy.



atmosphere to relive his "meal" (sic), I trust the brokers in the congregation will show their customary sensitivity.

Bed panner
THE splendid Ann Widdecombe is resorting to guerrilla warfare to attack Government bed-snatchers Ann Keen MP, a Labour toiler, was banging on about why we do no need more hospital beds (a chang there, surely?) on a Sky phone in and then the delicious Ann called She unzipped her grenades and blew apart the bed-snatchers' case Afterwards, Mrs Keen was said t look quite pale and very cross.

OH, no. Wendy's comeback ha gone belly up. I hear that his newest best friend, the Prince of Wales, has not given the resignation "more than a moment's notice".

JASPER GERARI

'In Russia the desires of the potential customer are irrelevant - you simply queue up and get what you are given'

was driving through the grey slush on a bleak country road near the godforsaken town of Klin (birthplace of Tchaikovsky) last week when my passenger remarked upon the large concrete slabs that line almost every road in the former Soviet Union. "Those things are hideous," he said, not without reason. "Well, the Soviets probably thought they looked modern," somebody else piped up from the back seat. "And that's all they have in the way of fencing," she added.

Here, everyone agreed, she had hit upon the problem. Russia does not have a supplyand-demand economy, it has a supply economy. The potential consumer's desires are irrelevant you get what you are given.
Under Communism, and in the early years of perestroika, if demand is estab-you saw a queue in the street you lished. (In fact, both would join it without knowing what was on sale at the end of it. People stood freezing for hours in the hope that a street trader's box of bath-sponges would not run

out before they reached the front. Essentially, if someone was selling it, you needed to buy it ~ macaroni, soap, oranges, toothbrushes. "I want some cream cheese," you might think. "Sorry madam, we've only got lightbulbs," the sales assistant might say. So, the next time you went shopping, you would know to ask for lightbulbs. Such would be the roaring trade in lightbulbs that the supply would be endlessly maintained, while cream cheese remained an unantainable dream. A supply economy which creates for itself the illusion of

cheese were equally hard to come by in the early 1990s, along with everything else.)

Things perked up a bit under Boris Yeltsin's presidency. but, since the catastrophic economic crash in August, factories have closed, useless, grim and ludicrously expensive industrial

towns in the far North have been evacuated in their entirety and the former Soviet workforce is at a loss as to what to do with itself. The vast and long-since superfluous staff of factories making televisions to 1960s standards

demand in vain that their back

Anna wages be paid and their jobs be returned to them. Although

they, at least, have something with which to barter privately old televisions. The scientists and technicians populating the hundreds of secret cities all over Russia are not so lucky, unless one counts the odd container of plutonium, known to be readi-

ly available to the determined. Barter as payment now ac-counts for 80 per cent of the economy and it can be a dirty game. On January 4, Estonia announced a decision to grant the Russian town of Ivangorod, situated on its border, 721,000 krone of what it described as

"humanitarian aid" with which to pay off Ivangorod's debt to the Estonian town of Narva for water supply and sewage system

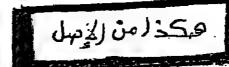
aving accrued a debt of \$1 million since Estonian independence, the Russians, whose water and sewage disposal was finally cut off on January 2 threatened to dump their sewage into the Narova River to be carried to the Bay of Finland. The Estonians backed down and accepted their own money as payment for their.

own services. In Chelyabinsk a company that among other things, constructs metro systems, was unable to pay its taxes, so the Chelyabinsk authorities ordered the company to construct them a metro system. Whether or not Chelyabinsk needed a metro did not come into the equation. Lada factories continue to churn out 1950s Fiats with the same ancient equipment. Why? Because that is what they do.

Yevgeni Primakov, the Rus-sian Prime Minister, is keen to stabilise the country's devastated economy and to stop the rouble plummeting much lower than its present rate of 22 to the dollar. But the day when old ladies in dusty uniforms stop watching metro escalators simply because they have always been escalator watchers, and when demand for cream cheese or lightbulbs results in an abundance of cream cheese and lightbulbs, still seems a long way off.

comment@the-times.co.uk-

مكذامن زيامل.





THE COOK BOOK

Public and private lessons for the Foreign Secretary

Robin Cook is a powerful analyst of impersonal forces. In the Labour Cabinet he is dominant in the realms of language and ideas. He is a man of both single and independent mind. His virtues certainly fit him to be Foreign Secretary and his vices, even those so viciously set out by his

ex-wife yesterday, do not debar him. Whether he can maintain his position in the fractious, febrile administration that is the new New Labour is still debatable. Even before yesterday's attacks, Mr Cook was famous for ending his marriage of 29 years in 1997 in a Heathrow VIP lounge, with a newspaper about to reveal his longstanding affair with his secretary, a wife with her holiday bags packed and a Downing Street press officer's pencil held to his head. When told to choose between wife and mistress, he brusquely discarded his wife, an action which, while easily explicable to a a Pitt or Palmerston, carries a whiff of callous self-indulgence that has not often widely been admired.

Wide admiration is something which modern governments, most especially this modern government, actively seek. Mr Cook must have been nervous, therefore, about the publication of his wife's autobiography even though she could arguably do him no damage that he had not already inflicted on himself. Margaret Cook has not landed her punches as lightly as she disingenuously claims; what partner to a bitter divorce ever does? Yesterday's newspaper extract was an unappetising catalogue not just of allegedly serial infidelity but of political jealousies, overweening vanity and episodes of lost self-control. But aside from her allegations of past drinking and pill-popping, there is little, including his reciprocated antipathy to Gordon Brown, that was not already public knowledge.

Diplomacy is Mr Cook's job: and it is as a diplomat, in the broadest sense of that term, that he must in future be carefully judged. He needs to be able to bring people behind him for the British interest, not just his own people but other politicians and diplomats. In this sphere of human relations, where his former wife dismisses him as a man of "no natural courtesy and sympathy", she is not the only observer to find the Foreign Secretary wanting.

Mr Cook, so brilliant an exploiter of weakness in Opposition, has been un- distracted man.

steady himself at the Foreign Office, a portfolio that he at first seemed almost to hold in contempt. His clumsy attempt to appoint Gaynor Regan, now the second Mrs Cook, as his diary secretary was a crass, if minor, misjudgment that symptomised a disdain for the institutional environment. The damage he has inflicted on the internal morale and international standing of the FO is likely to be the main thrust of the criticisms directed against him tomorrow, when the Foreign Affairs Select Committee takes testimony from the prematurely retiring Sir David Gore-Booth — the diplomat whose sad fate it was to be High Commissioner to India when Mr Cook's indelicate handling of Kashmir mired the Queen's visit in controversy.

Sir David is himself hardly the most sensitive soul in the service — he is before the committee to rebut the Ombudsman's verdict on his handling of an incident when he was Ambassador to Saudi Arabia - but he speaks for a wide constituency of officials unhappy with Mr Cook's cavalier attitude to briefings, with his tendency to blame subordinates for his not infrequent blunders, and with what is seen as a counterproductive obsession with "rebranding" the Foreign Office. The cooler Mr Cook sets out to make Britannia's outposts, it is argued, the more he perpetuates tired clichés of British diplomacy as a bastion of chinless privilege.

There is substance to these charges, as there is to the view that Mr Cook's video-launched ethical foreign policy gratuitously distorted the pursuit of British interests. If he is to stay at the Foreign Office, he needs to mend relations with its staff quite as much as he needs to rebuild bridges in Cabinet. There is some evidence that he has recently tried harder than before to pur his back into his job, and may even be starting to enjoy it. That is in his own interest as well as Labour's; it is hard now to see him rising beyond that role.

The Cabinet would not be the stronger for his departure. There is need for a heavweight counter to the Chancellor, particularly on EMU where Mr Cook's sceptical eye is a valuable presence. One hope around which the Labour leadership should rally is that this thorny but talented minister can bring an end to this time when he has been an understandably

NURSING FOR NURSES

A proper career structure is as important as pay

Lack of recruits to any profession is usually blamed on one factor: pay. That is assumed to be the case with the current shortage of nurses. Eight thousand are needed to fill hospital vacancies. Yet a sudden increase in nurses' pay is unlikely to result in a sudden rise in numbers of recruits or to ease the hospitals' immediate predicament. The Health Secretary, Frank Dobson, must tackle all aspects of the profession with the same radicalism that David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, has shown towards teaching. Failure to do so will threaten reforms whose implementation depends on there being enough

100

Victim 1

Will.

Nurses' pay lags behind that of other public services; a junior nurse is paid 17 per cent less than a new teacher. Yet simply promising an inflation-busting wage increase would be a short-sighted response and one that Gordon Brown is likely to resist. Any pay rise should be conditional on reform of the existing straitjacket of grades and pay scales. Nurses' salaries take too little account of any added responsibilities, and the system prevents them from earning more than £26,000 unless they move into management.

The best recruits will enter nursing only if it offers a secure career progression, rewarding skills and expertise. At present there is no formal fast track promotion scheme. Such ideas were sketched out by the former Health Minister, Alan Milburn,

before his promotion to Chief Secretary. The complaints they provoked from nursing unions should not deter Mr Dobson from giving them further thought. Flexibility in pay should be accompanied by more adaptable working practices - the providing of creches, for instance, or the matching of shifts with the school day.

Ministers should also take a fresh look at nurses' training. Fourteen per cent dropped out last year. Could this rate be lowered by tailoring training more closely to the level of skills required, allowing some nurses to become experts in certain fields, and others to learn as apprentices on wards? Yet Mr Dobson cannot wait the three years it takes for a nurse to be trained. Quite apart from the existing 8,000 vacancies, a quarter of all nurses will reach

retirement age next year.

Although he considers the practice an "international disgrace". Mr Dobson should be thankful that people are willing to come to Britain and work in a hospital at the current level of pay. He should welcome them — and offer to train them, too. He must do more, too, to lure the 77,000 nurses who have left back into the profession. Schemes to retrain them already exist; but financial incentives are needed. Nursing reform is not only a necessary part of the Government's modemisation project, but also a pressing political need if tries of "crisis" are not to continue to emanate from hospital wards.

EVER YOUNG

Fiction handles ageing better than modern societies do

Europe's most famous reporter turned 70 yesterday, but still retains the childish looks, boyish enthusiasm and sexiess energy that have won him admiring fans around the world and have sold 170 million copies of 22 books in 51 languages. Tintin is not only that rare example of a famous Belgian; he has become a figure so bernusingly real to all those who have followed him across remote deserts, down darkened corridors and to the outer reaches of the seas and the heavens that scientists and legislators are loath to admit that he is a mere figment of an illustrator's imagination. The French parliament has staged a debate in which each faction will claim him for their own. Psychoanalysts delve into Tintin's ambiguous sexuality. And scholars compile exegeses of the philosophy, social significance and Weltanschauung of the hack, his quiff and his dog.

A ruder and less complex navigator through this troubled world also turns 70 this year with the promise of long-delayed matrimony. Popeye is finally to marry Olive Oyl after a courtship that must rank as the longest and most rancorous in all seafaring history. The ceremony will take place on the isle of Spinachvania, and all prace on the last of open place on the same of the property of the same of the property of the same of

to see whether the pipe-smoking old seadog will settle down with his new family, including the already adopted youngest member, Swee' Pea.

. The two explorers - the childhood equivalents of The Archers, reappearing with timeless regularity - have now passed pensionable age, but are as actively engaged in life as they were when comic strips were young and celluloid a novelty. Those of more solid flesh and blood, however, find that age presents more formidable barriers. However well they preserve their bodies, their energies and talents are all too often ignored or disparaged by today's youth-obsessed society. Ageism is an ugly word, but it denotes an uglier phenomenon. It is the opposite of what most cultures in all places and all ages have inculcated: respect for the old honour for the wise and roles for all.

Luckily, a growing movement recognises the foolishness of this shallow worship of youth. Older people are increasingly being brought back to the workplace, the television screen and the voluntary organisation. Their experience enriches us, just as those whose fictional lives have reached 70 entertain us. Isn't it time, however, that just

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Call for 'honesty' over euro policy

From Mr George Thomas

Sir. Now that the euro has been launched, this country should decide once and for all, and without delay, whether it wants to be in or out of the European Union.

There can seldom have been an issue over which we have so needed, but have never had or been less likely to get, honest government: honest government being government that is quite truthful about the anticipated outcome of its policies.

One thing that is now clear, after years of obfuscation, is that the EU intends to become a federal state. In some ways it already has more federal powers than the federal Government of the US and we already know that these will increase.

Countries that are neither in nor out — those not converting to the euro — will suffer the worst of both worlds. If they prosper they will be accused of unfair practices and will be "punished" and the cause of their success negated. Not being independent, they will be unable to defend themselves and their success will turn to failure. Failure from the outset is more likely, however, because Euro-bureau-

cracy and rules make successful trading outside euroland, for all but a few very large or very specialised business es, almost impossible. For the UK this will be particularly damaging. There are arguments for being in and for being out of the euro/EU, but the argument advanced in both Gov-

ernment and Opposition that we should "wait and see" will be so harmful that you have to wonder at their motives

Yours faithfully, GEORGE THOMAS. 17 Campden Hill Square, W8 7JY.

From Mr Lance Anisfeld

Sir, The two most commonly heard economic arguments in favour of the single currency are the reduction of foreign exchange costs for industry and the deflationary price differences across Europe which it will reveal. Both these arguments are bogus.

Costs for one business are revenues for another. With fewer foreign exchange transactions, banks and foreign exchange dealers must surely lose out by an equal amount to the gains for industry. The net effect on business will be completely neutral.

Price differences have always existed and always will. However, sophisticated consumers know how to take advantage of them, and it is much more likely that the development of Internet technology will increase real global competition than — as is sometimes patronisingly argued — that the redenomination of prices will spare consumers the need to eet out their calculators. The beer trips across the Channel prove that they are not that ignorant where gains are to be

It is now very clear that political integration is what most pro-Europeans clamour for. I too am a pro-European, one who wants Europe to grow peace-fully and democratically — which is why I completely oppose what is now happening in continental Europe. Forget the mild disaster of the ERM. Look what has happened to other European federations in the last ten years namely the USSR and Yugoslavia. A federal superstate is doomed to col-

lapse and possibly civil war.
I pray for my children's sake that we remain independent and stay out.

Sincerely, LANCE ANISFELD (Special Adviser to the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, 1991-92). 33 Linden Lea, N2 ORF.

lanuary 5.

From Mr Robert Woollard Sir, I disagree with Mr Stan Snowdon (letter, January 5) that the small and medium-sized businesses (SMEs)

would benefit by being inside euro-

Oskar Lafontaine let the cat out of the bag when he put tax harmonisation firmly on the agenda (leading article, November 28). This doesn't suit the British electorate, let alone Britain's SMEs. I suspect that the executive director of the Federation of Small Businesses (letter, January 1) understands this.

I formed my own SME almost 30 years ago. Our overseas business is nearly always transacted in US dollars. If anyone wishes to deal in euros l have no problem. However, for this country to give up 1,000 years of economic and political independence in order to prove that we are good

Europeans is daft. The euro is but a few days old. Europe as it stands is largely socialist and needs to change dramatically. If you asked me to choose today between euroland and the US dollar region, there is only one choice: to apply for membership of the North American

Free Trade Agreement immediately. In a few years' time the story may be different. Let's wait and see how this experiment pans out - we have little to lose and much to gain.

Yours sincerely, ROBERT WOOLLARD (Chairman/Managing Director). Cascom Limited, Cascom House, Reform Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 8BV.

Letters may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

From Mr Ernest B. Scalabrin

From the Reverend Richard Thomas, MIPR

Sir, Once again a chorus of tightlipped disapproval rises from the Churches over next Easter's advertising campaign ("Jesus is given new revolutionary image", report, January 6). Like Christ's children sitting in the marketplace, the critics are calling out to each other "We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we sang a lirge, and you did not cry" (Luke vii,

I shall certainly be supporting the campaign in the Oxford diocese. The image of a revolutionary, killed for wanting to change the world, is not inappropriate for celebrating the death and resurrection of Jesus, who was himself mistaken for a revolutionary and tried for blasphemy.

It is a striking and bold campaign which uses the language of parable, taking images that contrast with an accepted understanding of God, so that new avenues to explore faith are opened. Advertising cannot do the job of a good sermon, but it is a medium excellently suited to public parable, and the first task of the Christian communicator is to make these

connections.
The Churches Advertising Network has created many stimulating cam-paigns, without much thanks or any financial support from church leaders. Every penny for the campaigns has had to be raised by network members. A poll conducted after an Easter campaign in 1995 showed that over 70 per cent of the population thought the Church should be advertising, and more than 35 per cent said it made them think about their own

It really doesn't matter if church leaders don't relate to this campaign - it's not designed for them. What matters is that an opportunity created for a public discussion of the meaning of the death and resurrection of Jesus should not be sacrificed on the altar of ecclesiastical correctness.

Yours sincerely, RICHARD THOMAS (Communications Director, Diocese of Oxford), Diocesan Church House, North Hinksey, Oxford OX2 0NB. January 6.

Cromwell escutcheon From Mr T. P. J. Edlin

Sir, The taffity escutcheon taken from

minster School, Uvedale's alma mater. As you report, Uvedale, then a 16-year-old scholar at the school.

the Majesty Scutcheon — disappear-ing with it into the crowd of his school-fellows before anyone could recover from the shock of surprise

Uvedale family for over 300 years, the boy's souvenir passed into the hands

Pig farmers' plight

From Mr Robin Beare

Sir, The sad plight of British pig far-mers is well expressed in the letter from Paul Cross (January 4), highlighting the excessive profits made by the supermarkets at the expense of the producer and of the retail customer.

Nevertheless our supermarkets display a multitude of imported pig products in the form of a chopped, cured sausage commonly known as "salami": Milano and Felino from Italy. chorizo from Spain, saucisson sec from France, bierwurst from Germany are only a few examples of an inviting product produced by every European country other than Britain. Our pig farmers should broaden their horizons and think beyond bacon, harn and pork. Why do we not

have an English rival to Parma ham? Yours faithfully,

ROBIN BEARE Cowden, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 7EB. January 4.

Animal drug tests

From Professor A. W. Cuthbert, FRS Sir, Dr Vernon Coleman's claim

prescribing practices shows that for many conditions, for example affecting the heart, circulation, respiratory system and kidneys, for inflammatory states, for pain relief, for bacterial infections etc, the same drugs are used in veterinary practice as for human medicine. It is true that there are instances in which the response to a particular drug differs in humans from that in some animal species,

Yours faithfully. ALAN CUTHBERT. University of Cambridge, Department of Pharmacology. Tennis Court Road Cambridge CB2 IQJ.

Sir, While I am delighted that people recognise Jesus as a radical, and not the wimp he has often been depicted as in paintings and movies, to present him in the image of a revolutionary like Che is antithetical to Christ's mission on earth. Jesus was very careful to instruct his followers that His kingdom was not of this world and would not be brought about by the means of this world, like violent revolutions.

It strikes me that the "Che" Jesus is as inappropriate as the meek and mild version that we have become used to. When Jesus called his followers to go into the world and make disciples of all nations (Matthew xxviii, 19-20), he did not call them to change or re-invent his image according to popular culture. If he is who he says he is, and I and so many others believe he is, he doesn't need earthly make-overs to promote himself.

Sincerely, ERNEST B. SCALABRIN, 311 High Street, Northvale, New Jersey 07647. ernjudy@io∏.com

From Mrs Ermina E. Bosch

Sir, Ernesto Che Guevara was a failure in everything he attempted: a failed medical student, a failed revolutionary in his native Argentina, even a failure at working for Fidel Castro in Cuba after the takeover of January 1959. He died because of his own incompetence after leading his group around in circles in the jungle. without food or supplies.

It is ironic that, because of a good photograph taken long ago with an old Leica, his image has been adopted worldwide as a symbol of the perfect revolutionary.

That unscrupulous people such as Castro use it as propaganda for their own benefit is understandable, but that Christians choose to jump on the bandwagon is inconceivable.

Sincerely, E. E. BÖSCH, 40 Sandalwood Mansions, Stone Hall Gardens, W8 5UR. January 7.

the Head Master's study.

John Carleton, Head Master at the

time of the gift, has described the theft

as not merely an act of bravado by

Uvedale but an expression of the

school's indignant feelings at the

lavish honour being paid to one he

had been taught to regard as a

Uvedale himself (1642-1722) went on

to become a skilled cultivator of exotic

plants, owner of one of the first

hothouses in England, and author of

of a descendant, Miss Mary West, by whom it was given to the school in 1964, since when it has hung outside

usurper.

Oliver Cromwell's hearse by Robert Uvedale in 1658 (report, January 5) is

darted between the soldiery guarding the bier and snatched from it the little silk banner - known at the school as

and catch him. Having been preserved by the

Some talk of ...

From Major David Scowcroft

a 14-volume herbarium.

Yours faithfully.

T. P. J. EDLIN,

Merton College,

Oxford OXI 4JD.

January 6.

Sir, Each morning I walk past the impressive array of military hero statues in Whitehall on my way to paperwork in the Stalinesque MoD main building. The statue of Raleigh outside it is not overwhelmed by its neighbours but stands in modest

The requirement is not its removal, as is suggested from time to time (letters, August 12, 19 and 22, 1996), but the positioning of a similar-size statue to achieve symmetry. The monument should be to one not as august as Montgomery but of a modest military background. (My own military career, for instance, is exceedingly modest.)

Yours sincerely, DAVID SCOWCROFT, Ministry of Defence, Room 4158, Main Building, Whitehall, SWIA 2HB.

From Mr R. T. Oerton

(letter, December 31) that animals and humans are so different that experiments performed on animals are "worthless and misleading" is patently untrue. A cursory examination of modern

similar to the incidence of different responses to a given drug in humans of different ethnic origin; but such instances are exceptional.

January 1.

Sir, Dr Peter Rossdale (letter, December 31) points out that a number of animals are bred for laboratory use, and that if the laboratory use of animals were to cease that number would diminish. He then adds: "Should we deny these the gift of life .. Is it better to have lived and suffered than never to have lived at

This surely is an example of the confusion of thinking which bedevils so much discussion on this and other subjects. As to Dr Rossdale's first question, an animal not yet conceived is not an entity to which anything can be denied or given. His second question makes sense only if posed in relation to an entity which exists or has existed: it cannot be asked about an animal which never comes into existence.

Yours faithfully. R. T. OERTON, The Granary, Park Lane, Cannington, Bridgwater, Somerset TA5 2LU. January 1.

Sport letters, page 33

Christ 'made-over' as Che Guevara Thank goodness for plain old 1999

From Professor G. J. P. O'Daly

Sir, Although he correctly gives nonaginta novem as the Latin for 99, Sir George Engle (letter, January 6) cannot be right to attribute elaborate French quatre-vingt dix-neuf to laconic Caesar's Gallic conquest. The true francophone descendant of Latin usage is the compact French-Swiss

nonante neuf.
As for the date of the current year, every schoolboy would once have known that we are now in 2752 a.u.c. lab urbe condita: from the foundation of the city of Rome). Postpone the millennium at once!

Yours faithfully, GERARD O'DALY, Department of Greek and Latin, University College London, Gower Street, WCIE 6BT. g.o'daly@ucl.ac.uk January 6.

From Mr Malcolm Oliver

Sir, Surely the reason that the French eschew the already-available nonante neuf in favour of the Academie-endorsed quatre-vingt dix-neuf owes less to the Roman conquest than to a desire to avoid being mistaken for

Yours sincerely, MALCOLM OLIVER, 26 Green Lane, Purley, Surrey CR8 3PG.

From Mrs Fenelia Ignatiev

Sir, It may be no coincidence that the Russian word for syllable is slog. To write 1999 in Russian requires 14 of them: Tysyacha dvevyatsot dyevyanosto dyevyatiy god.

No wonder they love their acronyms so much — USSR, KGB,

Yours faithfully, FENELLA IGNATIEV, 21a Gunterstone Road, WI4 9BP.

From Mr Richard C. Dixon

Sir, I have always subscribed to the subtraction method of Roman numerology as being easier and neater than those based on addition or abbreviation. MCMLXXXXVIIII would have been abhorred by Horace, Pliny and Cicero, MIM is too ugly for the likes of Ovid, but MCMXCIX would appeal to the military mind of Tacitus and the great Caesar; as it does to me.

Yours sincerely, RICHARD DIXON, 210 Dover Road; Walmer, Deal, Kent CTI4 7NB. Јапиату б.

From Mr Philip Le Brocq

Sir, That old stickler A. E. Housman might have taken this matter more gravely. On November 26, 1930, he ended a letter to Monica Bridges: I hope that you and yours are well; but your son must not hope for heaven if he writes MCMXXX for MDCCCCXXX.

Yours faithfully. PHILIP LE BROCQ, The Cottage, le Bourg, St Clement, Jersey JE2 6FY. plebrocq@super.net.uk January 7.

From Mr P. W. Esling

Sir. MDCCCCLXXXXVIIII or MIM? The problem for the Roman stonemason was a very simple one: Am I being paid per horam or per opus?

PETER W. ESLING. 3 Llysnewydd Cottages, Drefach Felindre, Llandysul, Dyfed SA44 5UT. January 6.

Puzzles galore

From Mr G. D. Clarke

Sir, Jumbo crosswords for Christmas Eve. Boxing Day, Bank Holiday, New Year's Day, new year weekend — this is sheer sadism. My social life is in ruins and I haven't finished one yet. Can we not come to some agreement whereby you publish, say, one a week and I stop writing you letters?

Yours faithfully, G. D. CLARKE, 31 Crutchfield Lane, Walton-on-Thames. Surrey KT12 2QY.

Sound and fury

From Mr Robin Stephenson

Sir, Environmental health inspectors in Warrington, Cheshire, are investigating an intermittent whining "that can be heard only by women" (News in brief, December 31).

This phenomenon would be no mystery to women in the South of England, where the period between Christmas and new year is filled with the whining of their menfolk bewailing a Christmas spent with relatives they detest and anticipating the demands of the new year sales. At least in Warrington the whining

ROBIN STEPHENSON. The Chestnuts, 22 Greenacres Drive, Ringmer, Lewes, East Sussex BN8 5LZ. January 3.

is only intermittent.



COURT CIRCULAR

SANDRINGHAM HOUSE January 10: Divine Service was held in Sandringham Parish Church this morning. The Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich preached

Birthdays today

The Right Rev J.A. Baker, former Bishop of Salisbury, 71; Mr J. Rashleigh Belcher, thoracic sur-geon, 82; Sir Alan Bowness, art historian. 71; Sir Robin Carford. former civil servant, 76; Mr Henry Cecil, racehorse trainer, 56; Mr Jason Connery, actor, 36: Mr Neville Duke, former test pilot, 77; Mr Brian Moore, rugby player, 37; Sir Alastair Morton, former chairman, Eurotunnel, 61; Lord Newton, 49; Sir Anthony Nutting, former MP, 79; Mr Jim Perris, former Governor, Wormwood Scrubs, 57; Mr Bryan Robson, football manag-er, 42; Air Chief Marshal Sir John Rogers, 71; Mr Arthur Scargill, trade unionist, 61; Mr John Sessions, actor and conedian, 46; Air Commodore Joy Tamblin, former director, WRAF, 73; Mr R.C. Tress, former Master, Birkbeck College,

Allan Hevman, OC A memorial service will be held a the Temple Church, London EC4, at 5pm on Thursday, January 14, 1999, so commemorate the life of Allan Heyman, QC.

Sidney Newland A memorial service for Sidney George Newland, OBE, JP, Life President of the Institute of Barris-ters' Clerks, will be held at the Temple Church, London EC4, on Wednesday, January 27, 1999, at

New Year Honours Mrs A.P. Renard was appointed an MBE in the New Year Honours for services to the community, especially leisure libraries, in Brad ford, West Yorkshire.

Party

Corporation of London The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress were the hosts on Saturday at the Mansion House at a party for children connected with City institutions, livery companies, HM Forces and London Boroughs.

School announcements

Headmaster's Secretary, 01729 823545 or e-mail headmaster@gig-

Easter Term at Haileybury begins

today. Mr James Standing has

joined the Biology Department.
The Annual Service of Confirma-

tion will be taken by the Lord

Bishop of Bedford on Saturday.

February 13, at 10.30am. The Fifth

Haileybury Model United Nations

Conference is on March 20 and 21.

The Soring Concert, including

Thursday, March 25, at 8.00pm.

The new Technology Centre will be

formally opened following the termly meeting of Council at 6.30pm on Friday, March 19, by Mr Denis Filer, former Director

General of the Engineering Coun-

cil and President-elect of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers.

Harrogate Ladies' College Harrogate Ladies' College opened

for the Spring Term on Wednes-

day, January 6. Entrance tests for September 1999 take place on Wednesday, February 3. The Dra-

ma Group presents Enemy of the People on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 19, 20 and 21, The

ment for UII4 is at Darlington on

Sanurday, January 30, and U15 at the Wirral on Saturday, March 13. The Scottish Schools Lacrosse

Tournament is on Saturday, February 6. St Michael's Hospice will

hold a Savoury Supper in School on Tuesday, March 9. The Parents and Friends Association will hold a

and Friends Association will hold a Trivia Quiz in School at 7.00pm on Saturday, March 13. The Choir will premiere Ruth Byrchmore's Canticles in Trimity College Chap-el, Cambridge on Saturday, March 20, and there will be a Chapel Concert at 4.00pm on

Sunday, February 28. The Ski Trip

will be to France between March

26 and April 2. Half Term is from

noon Saturday, February 13, until

6.30pm Sunday, February 21. Term ends on Wednesday, March

24, after Easter Music in St Wilfrid's Church at 2.15pm. Harrogate Ladies' College is a Registered Charity no 529579. Providing quality education for

dresses. Among others present were:

gleswick n-yorks sch uk

Halleybury

March 18. There will be an Open Morning for prospective Sixth Formers on Saturday, January 30, commencing at 9.30am. Term ends

The Cheltenham Ladies' College

Term begins today at The Chelten-ham Ladies College. Half term is from 5000 mon Friday. February

12. to Sunday, February 21, 1999

(inclusive). There will be a Com-

bined Concert with Cheltenham

College at 7.30pm on Sunday, March 14, at Cheltenham Town

Hall. The Sigh Form Production of Godspell will take place in the

Princess Hall on March 18 and 19,

starting at 7.30pm. Term ends on Saturday, March 20, 1999. The Cheltenham Ladies' College is

a registered charity established for the purpose of the education of

The Spring Term begins today. Sheri Lucas continues as Guardian There will be a Sixth Form

Information Day on Saturday, Rebruary 6, an Information Day for Heads and Educational Con-

sultants on Wednesday, February 10, and an Open Day for prospec-

tive pupils and their parents on Tuesday, March 2. The School

Play is on Saturday, March 20, and Term ends on Sunday, March

The Spring Term begins today and will end on Saturday, March 20, when the Old Giggleswickian Dinner at School will be held.

Philip Boyle is the Captain of Football, and Dominic Lunt and

Nicola Hyslop are the Captains of

Cross Country, "Scarrig" will be run on February 27. The Old Giggleswickians London Dinner

will take place at the House Of Commons on Wednesday, March

be held at Giggleswick beginning Thursday, February 4. Informa-

tion Evenings for prospective pu-pils and their parents will take

place in Windermere on Tuesday, Rebruary 23, and Ripon on Wednesday, March 10. Cameral Hall, the Preparatory School for Giggleswick, will hold Boarding Taster Weekends on February 27 and March 13. Further informa-

tion can be obtained from the

Scholarship Examinations will

Cobbam Hall

on Friday, March 19.

Arnold School, Blackpool The Spring term began on January 7 and will end on Friday, March 26, 1999. The Term's events include: Entrance Examination on January 9: Parents' & Friends' Association Burns' Night on January 23: opening of the Centenary Complex and Sports Hall on January 25 with former England Football Captain, Mr J. Armfield, as Guest of Honour; School production of Mort from February 9 to 12: Headmaster's Debate on Febru-12: Headmaner's Departon of Pepti-ary 27: CCF Annual Inspection of March 12: School production of Charley's Aunt from March 15 to 20: Inter House Sports Finals day on March 18; Oxbridge conference on March 23; School Concert on March 24; Golf Championship Finals at Kenilworth, on March 25. During the Easter holiday Sixth

Form groups will visit the French Alps, Andahıcia and French and Belgium Battlefields; and Lower School pupils will visit Paris. Arnold School, Blackpool is a registered charity which exists for the education of children. Charity No 526679. Benenden School

Term starts today at Benenden School. Open mornings for par-ents of prospective students will be held on February 6, and March 13 and 20. In celebration of Benenden's 75th Anniversary, there will be a Decade Lunch for 1940s Seniors on March 4 at Benenden, a Reception for 1980s/90s Seniors at Christie's, London SWI, on March 10 and a Decade Lunch for 1950s Leavers on Anril 24 at Renenden. There will be a Gala Performance at Her Majes-ty's Theatre, Haymarket, London SWI, on March 21 of Benenden A Great Company featuring pupils past and present, staff and parents. A luncheon and awards ceremony to celebrate 75 years of women's achievement will be held at The Savoy Hotel, London WC2, on April 22. Seniors' Day will take place on May 15. Speaker of the Year will be Rosalind Copisarow. All Seniors are warmly invited, especially leavers from 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989 and 1994.

Bromsgrove School School convenes today for the Lent Term. The Choral Society will perform African Sapetus in the Memorial Chapel on Thursday,

Brook, merchant banker, beld on Memorial service Friday at St Lawrence Jewry-next-Guildhall, Canon David Burgess Sir Robin Brook The Duke of Edinburgh was officiated and the Rev John Slater

> Mr Neil Stacy read from Ulysses by Lord Tennyson. Professor Michael Root, Professor Lesley Rees and Mr Nicholas Lund gave ad-

led the prayers.

dresses. Among others present were Mme Sarah Brook (daughter), Mr and Mrs Richard Burnett (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs Rachard Burnett (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs Rachard Burnett (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs Rachel Veron, Mr Casper Burt and Mrs Tristan Veron, Mr Casper Burt and Mrs Tristan Veron, Mr Casper Burt and Mrs P Bisgood, Mr and Mrs N Parker, Mr and Mrs T Young, Dr B and Dr C Howard, Mr D M Brook, Ms J Burnett, Mr and Mrs A Burn, Mr and Mrs R Dallon Holmes.

The Countess of Limerick, Lord, Monro of Langholm, Lord Paul, the Hon Mrs Strart, Lady Roger) Bannister, Sir Brooks and Lady Richards, Sir Alan Campbell, Sir Arihny and Lady Gold, Lady Inglefield, Sir Christopher Luidlaw, Sir Farrick Reilly, Sir Joseph Rotblat, Lady Riches (Queen, Einzebeits Fund), Dame Gillian, Wagner, Dame Mary Clen Haig, Lleuennant-General Sir James Wilson, Major-General Sir James Wilson, Majo

Bartholomew's Hinspital with other special trustees.

Mr Eddie George (Governor, Bank of England), Dr Mangaret Jones (chief executive, Brook Advisory Centres) with other representatives, Dr K W Allen (clerk emerius, City University Convocation), Mr Simon Sperryn (London Chamber of Commerce and Industry) with other representatives of the chamber, Mr Derek Casey (English Sports Council), Mr Simben Cockburn (Jonian Group), Mr Malcolm Denson (general secretary, Central Council of Physical Recreation) with other members of the council.

Mr R Fins (Ionian Bank of Greece),
Mr Ford (St Bartholomew's Foundation for Research), Mr Brian Gimore
(chairmen, Royal Hospital NHS
Trust) with Major-General Ray Ret
(thief eucenive) and other representatives of the trust, Miss Judith Hanranty
(Brinish Petroleum).

Mr Leonard Hannon (chairman,
Sports Aid Foundation), Mr John
Heffernan (president, RNID), Professor
France: Heidensohm (chairman, East
London and Gry Health Authority) with
Mr Peter Coe (chief enecutive); Mrs C
Holroyd huuse director, Royal Free
Hampstead NHS Trust), Mr M O'Hara
(secretary, City University), Mr 1, Pike
(Commonweath, Games Council for
England), Mr John Plant (London and
Provincia) Nursing Trust).

Dr Mark Seaman [Imperial War
Museum), Mr Brian Sedgemore, MR,
Mr J Sharpley (Queen Marys University Hospital), Ms Wendy Thomas
(chief executive, Population Concern),
Mrs Anne Weyman (chief executive,
Family Planning Association), Professor
F Boyd (St George's Hospital
Medical College Trust), Mr A Wieler
Williams (St Bartholomew's Hospital
Medical College Trust), Mr A Weler

Forthcoming marriages

the Reverend and Mrs Peter

Hooper, of Sherborne, Dorset, and

Ebernoe, Petworth, West Sussex.

The engagement is announced between Tara, elder son of Mr and

Mrs R.J.d'O. Hope, of Wivelsfield

Green, Sussex, and Anna, second daughter of Dr and Mrs G.R.

Porter, of Nun Monkton, North

The engagement is announced between lan, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Lewis, of Eardisley.

Herefordshire, and Vanessa, only

daughter of the late Mr Richard

Jeffrey and of Mrs Nita Olivier, of

The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr and

Mrs Andrew Marr, of Beverley,
East Yorkshire, and Sarah,
daughter of Dr and Mrs Roll
Güsten, of Rome, Italy,
Mr C.J.M. Miskin, QC,
and Miss A.J.T. Start

The engagement is announced between Charles, son of Mr Nigel Miskin, of Hurlingham, and the

late Mrs Meryl Miskin, and Angharad, elder daughter of Professor Kenneth Brian Start, of

Melbourne, Australia, and Mrs Ann Taylor Start, of Kew. Mr K. Nicolson

The engagement is announced between Keith, only son of Mrs Alexander C. Nicolson and the late Mr Nicolson, of Turriff,

Aberdeenshire, and Wendy, second daughter of Major and Mrs Alastair D. Bowe, of Gordon,

and Miss J.E. Hoare
The engagement is announced between Matthew, only son of Mrand Mrs Michael-Nimmo, of

Hindon, Wilsshire, and Jo, only

daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek Hoare, of Medan, Indonesia.

The engagement is announced between Jeremy Antony Simon, eldest son of Sir Antony and Lady.

Pilkington, of Kingsley, Cheshire, and Deborah Anne, younger

daughter of Mr C. Lee, of Head-bourne Worthy, Hampshire, and Mrs D.V. Lee, of Hursley, Hamp-

Mr J.A.S. Pilkington

and Miss D.A. Lee

Mr LMLL Rees and Miss N.A. Rafferty

and Miss C.W. Bowe

Berwickshire...

Mr M.S.E. Nin

Charlecote, Warwickshire, Mr A.G. Marr

and Miss S.D. Güsten

Mr T.J.d'O. Hope

Yorkshire....

Mr L Lewis

and Miss V. Jeffrey

and Miss A.R. Porter

Mr L.E. Armstrong and Miss S.J. Brooks

The Leys School, Cambridge The Lent Term begins today. Entrance tests for 11+ and 13+

places will be held on Saturday.

February 6, and Scholarship Exam-

inations on Monday, Rebruary 8. The School Concert is on Friday.

Pipers Corner School, High Wy-

The Spring Term begins today at

Pipers Corner. Entrance tests for

11+ and 12+ entry will be held on

2pm at St Michael & All Angels,

Chapel on Tuesday, March 16.

Boarders returned to St George's School, Ascoryesterday and School opens today for the Spring Term, with Mrs Grant Peterkin taking

up her new post as Headmistress. Antonia Phillips continues as Head Girl. The Senior School

Drama Production of Top Girls will take place February 11 to 13.

Tuesday, February 16, to Sunday, February 21. There will be a Prep

Schools Music Day on Friday, March 19, culminating in a concert at 5.30pm for an invited audience.

Term ends on Friday, March 26.

The Fifth Year have a Spanish visit to Salamanca from March 26 to

Term began on Wednesday, January 6, in this the 128th Centenary

year of the school. The School Play Daisy Pulls it Off will be per-

formed on February 10, 11 and 12, in the school half. The 13+ Scholar-

ship Examinations will take place on Wednesday, March 3, and the

Chapel Centenary Service will be

held on Sunday, March 21, at 10am. For further details please

contact the School. Term ends on

Thursday, March 25.

St Mary's School, Wantage

April 2

St George's School, Ascot

February 12.

Reed's School

The engagement is announced between Lee, son of Mr Armstrong, of Huntingdon, and Mrs G.D. Lamb, of Beverley, Sarah Louise Rosalinde, daughter of Mr and Mrs Bryan Pascoe, of Yorkshire, and Suzi, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs WJ. Brooks, of Broadstairs, Kent. Mr R.S. Blaskey and Ms S.A. Engelsn

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Mr Harry Blaskey and of Mrs Blaskey, of Rochampton, London, Senurday, January 30, in the Main School. The Right Rev Michael Hill, Bishop of Buckingham, will be conducting the Confirmation Service on Thursday, March II, at and Simone, daughter of the late Mr Bernard Engelsman and of Mrs Engelsman, of Weybridge,

Surrey. Mr R.M. Cox-Johnson and Lady Caroline Burnett Arm-

The engagement is smootneed Spring Term begins today and an Open Morning will be held on Saturday, January 30. Akshay between Richard, son of the late George and Joan Cox-Johnson, and Christine Caroline Catherine, Dosaj continues as Captain of School and James Smith will be eldest daughter of the late Earl of Stradbroke and of the Hon Mrs K. Captain of Hockey. The Bishop of Guildford will conduct the Confir-Rous, of Clovelly Court, Clovelly. Mr K.O. Cutler mation Service in the School and Miss E.L. Coventry

The engagement is announced between Kevin, son of Mr and Mrs Owen Cutler, of Maidenhead. Rerkshire and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Coventry, of Little Chalfont, Buckinghamshire. Mr M. Dimond and Miss C.M. Percy-Robb

The engagement is announced between Matthew, younger son of Mr and Mrs Paul Dimond, of Los Angeles, USA, and Claire, vounger daughter of Professor and Mrs lain Percy-Robb, of Bearsden, Glasgow. Captain C.M.P. Farr, RHA,

and Miss H.A.K. Reynolds
The engagement is announced
between Chris, son of Mr and Mrs. R. Farr, of Swanage, Dorset, and Holly, daughter of Mr and Mrs C.H. Reynolds, of Hethe, Oxford-

shire, Mr J.P. Griffiths

Mr J.F. Gransas and Miss T.A. May The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Griffiths, of Earl. Stonham, Suffolk, and Tamsin, daughter of Mr John May, of Noting Hill, London, and Mrs David Lemonius, of Yarmouth, isle of Wight.
Mr R.D. Griffiths

and Miss V.H. Skilbeck The engagement is announced between Russell, younger son of Mr and Mrs Douglas Griffiths, of Orba, Spain, and Virginia, daughter of Mr Richard Skilbeck, of Ashmansworth, Hampshire, and of Mrs Antony Atha, of

Mr R.S. Hodges and Miss V.J. Ratcliff

The engagement is announced between Richard, son of Mr G.A. Hodges and Mrs R.A. Hodges, of Terling, Essex, and Victoria, daughter of Mr and Mrs E.H. Ratcliff, of Faulkland, Bath, Somer-

The engagement is announced between Ian, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Craig Rees, of Brook-mans Park, Hertfordshire, and Nicola, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Terrence Rafferty, of Kinross.

Dresden, 1829: Thomas Hardy. novelist and peer Dorchester, 1928; Caradoc Evans, writer, Apendative of the Labour Party 1985-63, London, 1963; Stri Lai Bahaidar Shastri, Prime Minister of India 1964-66, Tashkent, 1966; Alberto zerland, 1966: Richmal Cromoton: author, 1969.

Charing Cross Station was opened, London, 1864. Insulin first used successfully in the treatment of diabetes, 1922. King Zog of Albania was de-throned, 1946. The Open University awarded its

Mr G.B. Ritson and Miss E.K. Hulmes Mr M.R. Hooper and Miss S.L.R. Pascoc The engagement is announced between Manhew Rufus, son of

The engagement is announced between Gavin, son of Dr and Mrs Bruce Ritson, of Edinburgh, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Hulmes, of Chester

Dr M.P. Roseveare

and Miss E.J. Bee The engagement is announced between Peter, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Richard Roseveare, of Bedford, and Jane, younger daughter of Mr Stephen Bee and the late Mrs Margaret Bee, of Norwich.

6

Mr M.H. Sacher

and Miss N. Zafland The engagement is announced between Michael, son of the late Mr and Mrs Michael Sacher, of London, and Nicola, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Zatland, of London.

Mr A.D. Steel

and Miss M.V. Kenney The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Professor Michael and Dr Judith Steel, of St Andrews, Fife, and Veronica (Nonny), daughter of the late Dr Nigel Kenney and of Dr Gail Kenney, of Cambridge.

Mr P.D. Thomas and Miss Z.S. O Sullivan The engagement is announced between Peter, son of Mr and Mrs David Thomas, of Durham, and Zoë, daughter of Mr and Mrs T.R. O'Sullivan, of Crouch End, Lon-

don. Mr N.R.J. White and Miss C.M. Brown

The engagement is announced between Nicholas White, of Bewdley, Worcestershire, and Constance, only daughter of Mr and Mrs H.G. Brown, of Elmley

Lovett Worcestershire

Mr N.J. Wotherspoon and Dr D.M. Parry The engagement is announced between Nicholas, younger son of Mr and Mrs James Wotherspoon, of St Helens, and Delyth, elder daughter of the Revd and Mrs Irvan Parry, of Llandudno, North

Marriages Mr P.J.J. Clegg and Miss F.J.E. Cass

The marriage took place on Saturday at St Andrews, Girton, Cam-bridge, of Mr Philip Clegg, son of Mr Jonathan Clegg, of West Hampstead, London, and of Mrs George Chesterton, of Malvern, Worcestershire, to Miss Fleur Cass, youngest daughter of Sir Geoffrey and Lady Cass, of Cam-bridge. The Rev Rob Mackiniosh

The bride, who was given in marriage; by her father, was attended by Miss Philippa Wright. Mr Angus MacGregor was best

A reception was held in Girton College and the boneymoon will be spent in the Caribbean.

Mr C.E.Y. Vigors and Miss A.E. Slaybangh A service of plessing was held at St Paul's, Knightsbridge, on Friday. January 8, 1999, after the marriage in the United States, of Mr Charles Vigors, only son of Mr and Mrs Robin Vigors, of St Tudy. Cornwall to Miss Amy Slaybaugh. only daughter of the late Mr Gerald Slaybaugh and of Mrs

The Rev. Christopher Courtauld officiated. A reception was held at The Berkeley Hotel and the honeymoon is being spent in Jamaica. Mr and Mrs Charles Vigors will be living permanently in Lawrence, Kansas.

JETLINE -

0171 360 1111

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Slaybaugh, of Topeka, Kansas.

Nature notes

represented by Mr Robert Pettl-grew and Princess Margarer by the Hon Mrs Christopher White-

head at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Sir Robin

THE buds are beginning to swell on some trees, and woodpigeons are pecking at. the juicy, half-formed leaves inside them. The pigeons will venture out on quite thin twigs to get at the buds and often tumble off. Mistlethrushes are feeding on the black ivy berries, and if a pair they will drive all rivals away

with churring cries. On northern coasts, the black and white eider drakes are already beginning to woo the brown ducks in the flocks: they toss their heads back to show off the pink flush on their breasts, and make deep

groaning calls that can be heard half a mile away. Several cranes have been seen in Norfolk; they are taller

than herons, with black-andwhite stripes on their long necks, and black wing-feathers drooping over their tails.

A black-bellied dipper from the Continent also arrived at last week, but was seen on

Saturday being pursued by a sparrowhawk and has not been reported since. Snowdrops are opening under the trees on garden lawns. and the first primroses can be found in sheltered woods near the south coast.



The crane



Professor Michael Besser, Mr and Mrs
T Brooks, Professor and Mrs M
Brudenell, Professor Mr Barrigh Daly,
Mr. A Countbe-Termant, Professor O
Dickinson, Mr J Diskey, Mrs M
Dunne, Professor M J G Farthing,
Professor R Franklin, Mr P Godfrey,
Mrs G Gorell Barnes, Mr J Higgins,
Mr E Jones, Mr R McNab, Jones, Mr N
Mills, Mr R Palmer, Mr D Surgent, Mr
A Service, Mr E Stone, Mr and Mrs C
Wintour, Mr P Zetter, representatives
of the Special Forces Club and many
other Intends and former colleagues. London, 1762; Friedrich von Sch-legel, philosopher and historian,

Anniversaries | BIRTHS, Sir Charles Hastings, physician, founder of the British Medical Association, Ludlow, 1794; Sir John Macdonald, Prime Minister of Canada 1867-73 and Minister of Canada now William 1878-91, Glasgow, 1815; William James, psychologist, New York, 1842; George Curzon, Marquess Valleston, Viceroy of Curzon of Kedleston, Victroy India 1898-1905, Kedleston Hall, Derbystere, 1859; Harry Gordon Selfridge, founder of the London store, Ripon, Wisconsin, 1864. DEATHS: Sir Hans Sloane, physician and collector, London, 1753; Louis François Roubiliac, sculptor,

first degrees, 1973.

TRADE; 0171 481 1982 FAX: 0171 481 9313

BMDS: 0171 680 6880 PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

Christ is now in heaven, where he sits at the right side of God. All angels, authorities, and powers are under his control. 1 Peter 3.22 (CEV)

AYRES - On December 5th 1998 at Lewisham Hospits to Katie and Martyn, a daughter Elisabeth Jane.

DEICHES - On December

berree - On January 4th 1999, to Fenella (née Fox) and John, a son, Alexande

Higgies - On 5th January 1999 at St. John's Hospital Chaimsford, to Kerry (née Humphries) and Barrie, a

MARIEN - On New Year's Eve 1998, to Nicols (née Stenhouse) and Patrick, a son, George William, 2 brother for Harry, born on 12th March 1996.

RED - On December 23rd to Robert Nicki (née Barcley Jacobs), a daughter (Olivia Madeline), a sister for

REMIY - On January 4th 1999 to Tilly (note Channon) and Mark, a daughter, Olivia Constance

DEATHS BENETT - Morris Charles MC, died 8th January 18 at home after a long illu-aged 84 years, Husband the late Margarita Benet the late Margarita Benett.
Cremation to be held at
Kennel Green
Crematerium, Harrow
Road, West London on
Tuesday 19th January at
3.30pm, to which all
friends are respectively
invited. Family flowers
only but donations, if
desired, to the Heart
Foundation. All enquiries
to J.H. Kenyen Fuperal
Directors. Telephone: 0171
229 3810

and the second of the second s

BUXTON - Agnes Josephine. SRN, daughter of Doctor and Mrs T Bragg, born in Chine, beloved wife (my joy) of Kenneth Buxton. greatly loved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother and great-grandmother. Endured so bravely much pain but died peacefully in hospital 3 am Friday 8th January, aged 91. Private Cremation 10am, then Thanksgiving Service at noon Friday 15th January at Greyfriars Church, Reading, followed by refreshments. No flowers. Gifts to Far East Broadcasting Association, Freepoet, Worthing, BN14 17BR. "With Christ - far better" Phil. 1:23. greatly loved mother.

CLOWES - Grace Louise passed away pescefully on the 6th January 1999. Funeral Service at Ameraham Crematorium

CORMON - Dr. Paul Conner (CChem FRSC), much loved husband of Pamela and father of David, died on Jamary 5th following a stroke. The funeral will be held at 1.00pm, Thursday, Jamary 21st at the Chiltern Crematorium, Amerikam, Pamily flowers only, please, but donations may be made to The Stroke Association, 61-69 Derugate, Northampton, NN1 1UE.

COOK - Dr. George Thomas, on Jamusry 8th 1899, peacefully at Ashurat Park Nursing Home, Tunbridge Wells. Beloved mahand of the late Audrey Sarings Cook, much loved lather of Brenda, Renneth and Stells and a dear grandfather and greatgrandfather. Funeral at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Tussday January 19th at 11.00sm. No flowers please, but donations to the National Osteoporosis Society, c/o E.R Hickmott & Sous, 41 Grove Hill Road. Grove Hill Road, Tumbridge Wells, TN1

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notice please call 0171 680 6886

CROSSLEY - On 2nd
December 1998, in a car
accident in South Africa,
Moyra Louiss Margaret
Crossley, widow of
Michael Crossley and
previously widow of the
late Major General
Theodore Biricheck of
Anley Settle. A funeral has
taken place in South
Africa. Enquirles to Roger
Peters, Gordon Dadds
Solicitors, 80 Brook Street,

Diffes - Vicky, passed away pescentilly after a brave fight at St Thomas' Respital, Lambeth en Tuesday 5th Jan 1999, aged 12 years. She was greatly lowed and will be sadly missed by her husband John, son Robert and twins Sarah and Amy, her lowing num and dad, Clarita and Ernest Barber, sisters Maria and Belimda, hutbers-in-law and all her lowing family. Funeral service at The Chapel, Camber well New Cemetery, Branchey Gardens (off Forest Hill Rd) SE23 on Thursday 18th January at 1.30pm

Gardem (off Forest HM)
Rell SE23 on Thursday
14th January at 1.30pm
followed by interment at
Camberwell Old
Cametary, Forest Hill
Road, SE23, Flowers to 14t
Wood Vale by 11am at the
latest or densitions if
desired, to 8t Themse
Hospital (Gallen Ward
Fund), Lamboth, Cara
leave Wood Vale at 1.10
pm.

ARRISON - Thomas Gerard, MBE(mil), OBE, KCSC, -way suddenly on 5th lantary 1999, aged 30. Lantary 1999, aged 30. Lantary Mass at 5t Stephan's Church, Rorsted Keyons at 2.00pm on 12th January, bellowed by Keynes at 2.00pm on 12th January, followed by buriel in the Churchyard of St Giles, Family flowers only, please. Douatiens if desired, c/o Masters and Son, Undertakers. Lindfield, tel 01444 482107, may be unade to "CAP-Milford Trust" Tomb personal charity foundation to support oundation to support auses close to his beart. A memorial Mass, to his heart. A Memorial Mass, to be followed by light refreshments, will be held at Farm Street Church, London, on Thursday 18th February 1999.

AYWARD - Major General George Victor, formerly R.E.M.E., died pescefully at home January 7th, Much loved and loving husband and father, Service of Thanksgiving at St. Mary's Westerham at 2.30m on and father, Service of Thanksgiving at St. Mary's Westerham at 2.30pm on Monday January 18th. No flowers, but if wished, donations to the REME

Benevolent Fund, c/o Ebbutt Funeral Services, High St. Limpefield, Surrey, RHS ODR. Tel: 01883 713 767.

January, percefully at home from cancer aged 4 Much loved son of Much lowed son of
Geoffrey and Vittoria,
Iather of James, and
partner of Margaret, will
be sadly missed by his
many friends. Funeral at
the Church of St Vincent
de Paul, The Ridgeway,
NW7 on Friday Jamesry
15th at 9.45mm. Pollowed
by Burial at Hendon
Cametery. No flowers.
Donations to Camden &
Islington Community
Health Service (Charitable
Trust Fund), Gospel Oak
Branch, of H. Philips, 539
Watford Way, NW7, Tel:
0181 S59 4382.

Constance peacefully at home lst Jessiery 1999 beloved and adored wife

10494 - David Royden, on January 7th suddenly in Winchester Hospital age 55. Beloved husband of on Belowed hisshead of Elegant. Puneral Service at Winchester Cathedral an Friday January 15th at 2pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if Omered to the Francisco Winchester Cathedral, c/o JNO Steel & Son. Chesil House, Winchester, SO23

LEWS - Peacefully on January 3th 1999, Dr.
Edward Brian Lewis aged 68 years. Loving husband of Aurea and father of Edward, Sophie and grandisther of Aurea. Private Jamily funeral. Memorial service to be arranged. Family flowers only please, but donations if desired to Cancer Day Cantre, William Harvey Hospital, c/o Chittendem's F.S. Windmill St. Hythe. Kent.

MARTIN - John Francis Ryde, C.M.G., on 5th January, in Kinga College Hospital, London, aged 55, after a long illness. Dearly loved Insband of Kathleen and father of Stephen, Alexander and Max. Private Cremation, Service numerous and Max.
Private Cremation. Servi
of Thurkegiving at
Chichester Cathedral on
Priday 15th Jamuary at
11.00am.

ROMANCET - Princa
Restislay on 7th January
at the Royal Maraden
Hospital London. Beloved
husband of Tie and Inther
of Stephens, Alexandra,
Misha and Nikita. Much
loved by wider family and
friends. Funeral Service at
the Russian Orthodox
Cathedral, Ennistnore
Gardens, SW7 on
Thursday 14th January at
1.00pm. No flowers please,
donations to Romanolf
Fund for Russia, c/o
Coutts & Co., Roberts
Office. 15 Lombard St.
London ECSV 9AU. ROMANOST - Prince

Herei - Salvatore et Kenton Hiddisex, on 27th December 1998, aged 67. Fumeral on Fridey 15th Jenusry at All Saints Church, Kenton, at 9.10am followed by cremation at Breakspear Crematorium

SECONDS - Lt.Cal. Tony
OBE, formerly of Cyprus,
died peacefully on 7th
January aged 59. Husband
of Berbara, father of Sally
Anne and Rossy. Funeral
on Thursday 21st January
at 12-30 at St. Giles
Church, Codicote, Herts.
Pamily Rossess only. Family flowers only.

Donations to British
Lagion c/o G.W. Blow,
Church Street. Welver Church Street, Welwyn ALS OBL, 01438 714686.

STERN - Marjorie (tale Gidley) wife of the late Raiph Stern, Director of A. Stern Ltd, Tooley Street London, died pescafully at heme on Sanday 3rd Ismusy 1999. Cremation at Putney Vale Crematorium, Friday 15th Ismusy at 12.30pm. Donations to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children o/e 7.H. Sandara, 12-14 Medifield Street SW15. Telephone: 0181 789 6855

TOCKLEY - Mary (nee Guillebaud). Wisdow of the late Dr. Thomas Stockley. late Dr. Thomas Stockle Peacefully at home 3th January 1999, aged 77. Much loved mother and grandmother. Family flowers only. Donatio desired to Cruse

defined to Cruse
Bereavement Care, c/o
Brian Warner Funeral
Sarvices, 4 Harshel Com
Hastington Grove,
Cambridge, CB1 4UH.
Funeral midday Friday
January 15th, St James's
Church, Wulistan Way,
Cambridge. SIMMERSON - David Problems, on January 7th pescefully in his 90th year Beloved father of David, Ann and Beth, grandfather of Matthew and Nicholss. PHOMAS - David Keith pescafully at home in

Problems - David Keith pescaluly at hone in Cambridge, Massachusetts, U.S.A. on 6th January 1999, Much foved husband of Danièle, father of Sophie and brother of Carole, Patrick and Linda. Thankegiving service in England later in the year, to be announced.

WARD - On January 5th, peacefully, Depture ince
Lumeden) aged 71.
Beloved wile of Bernard, and much loved by her three children and eight grand children and eight grand children. Funeral private, no flowers, donations if wished to imperial Cancer Research (70 Wellham Jones, 156
London Road, Sevencaka, TNI3 1DJ. MARD - On 5th January, of Darlington, The Reverend Albert George Ward, aged 71 years, Belowed husband of the lars Elizabeth Anna

loving father of Frances, Philip, Rachel and Micha and a much loved grandar of Ben and James. of Ben and James.

WHEES - On Immary 5th

Hillary Joan (nois

Summir-hays), aged 90,
widow of Dichy Willow.

CMG, mother of Michael,
grandmother of Sarsh
Reith and of Joanthan

great grandmother of

James and Robbie. Funeral
ar Helyhounna Church at

2pm on Friday Jamuary

18th Memorial service at

Duivartop later. Please, no

flowers, but doustions if

desired by cheque psyable
to Richard Dimbistry

Camer Fund. 60 Kemp

and Stavens. 93, High

Street, Alton, Hampshire,

GU34 1LG.

هڪذامن زلامل

WLSON - Antony Graham.
Died suddenly on
December 17th 1998, aged
58. Funeral at St. Michael's
Church. Highgate on
Thursday January 14th at
2.00pm. Family flowers
only, donations to Shelter
t/o Lewerton and Sons
Ltd. 212 Evershoft Street
London NW1 1BD. Ltd, 212 Evershoft S London NW1 18D.

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OBITUARIES

THE MARQUESS OF BRISTOL

Frederick William John Augustus Hervey, 7th Marquess of Bristol was found dead terday aged 44. He was born on September 15, 1954.

he Hervey family has produced several notable rogues over the centuries. from the 18th-century Earl-Bishop of Derry, who amused himself by having the plumpest parsons in his diocese race through a bog for a particularly rich and vacant living (only to give it to someone else), to the 6th Marquess, who was jailed for three years for jewellery theft in the 1930s and who decided to sell guns to the Republicans during the Spanish Civil War and then betrayed them to the Francoists. But John, son of the latter and the 7th Marquess of Bristol, could compete with any of them.

Historians and geneticists could make much of the fact that almost every aspect of John Bristol's personality and behaviour had extensive precedents in his well-documented family history, al-though it should be noted that the Herveys of the 19th century were models of propriety. But, whether or not he was ultimately a victim of heredity. Bristol's life remains a tragic tale of an intelligent man who destroyed himself through excess. His addictions to cocaine and heroin left him a very sick man while still in his thirties, got him sent to prison twice and played a major role in the squandering of an immense fortune.

Frederick William John Augustus Hervey was born heir to the ited, and he quickly became in-

Suffolk in 1954, to Victor, 6th Marquess of Bristol and his first wife Pauline (née Bolton). The collapse of his parents' marriage when Johnny, as he was known to friends and family, was five, provided him with the classic background for later waywardness, but he was the first to point out that much of his childhood was remarkably happy. His father's second wife, Juliet Fitzwilliam, and Teddy Lambton, the race horse

trainer whom his mother married

after her divorce, were warm and

generous step-parents.

Johnny's relationship with his father was always difficult, even if the allegation that the 6th Marquess had compelled his son to wear long white gloves on a daily basis, made by his defence QC in his trial for possession of heroin and cocaine in 1993, was, as Bristol himself claimed, the first that he had ever heard of it. His father was a cold man who considered himself above the rules governing the rest of society, and he passed these

characteristics on to his son. Johnny Hervey was educated at Harrow, where he was a contemporary of the Marquess of Blandford, who was to become his main rival as Britain's most notorious peer. He completed his education at Neuchanel University in France, the boys equivalent of a finishing school. At the age of 18 he inherited more than a million pounds from a trust fund. The freedom this afforded him did not combine well with the appetite for excess and the self-destructive streak he had inher-

splendours of Ickworth House in volved with drugs, at first cocaine and later heroin, through a "fast" set of wealthy friends at Oxford University.

Until he was 24 Hervey managed to combine an escalating drug habit with full-time employment, at first at Donaldson's estate agents and later running a Rolls-Royce dealership and working at a small bank. But in 1978 he moved to Paris, and from that point on was essentially a man of leisure, although he liked to present himself as a successful entrepreneur. He spent prodigiously, on drugs, lavish parties, cars, helicop-ters and yachts, and on a succes-sion of homes, in London, Monaco, Paris and New York.

As Hervey reached adulthood, relations with his father, always distant and stiflingly formal dur-ing his childhood, began to deterio-rate badly. In 1974 his father married Yvonne Sutton. Johnny's bilious reaction was to describe his second step-mother as "some kind of under-secretary". Soon afterwards, his father stripped the family wing of Ickworth bare without informing his son, who was

living there.

But perhaps the lowest point in the relationship came a few days before the young Johnny's marriage to Francesca Fisher, a 20-year-old teetotal vegetarian, in 1984. His father, then living in Monaco, took out an advertise-ment in *The Times* personal column to deliver an astonishing snub, announcing that he and his wife would not be attending the wedding "due to a prior engagement in London".

The following year the 6th Marquess died, and Johnny Bristol and his new wife moved into Ickworth. For a time things looked promising. He appeared to have conquered his addiction to drugs, which had led to his narrowly escaping a 15-year sentence after his arrest in New York in 1983 on charges of drug trafficking, and to have abandoned a promiscuous homosexuality which had been out in the open since around 1978. His desire to produce an heir and to settle down were clearly genuine, but it was not to be. Francesca left him for another man shortly after the move to Ickworth, and from then onwards his life spiralled

less unchecked. In 1988 Bristol received a onevear prison sentence for attempting to smuggle cocaine into Jersey in his helicopter. The following year he was fined £3,000 for the possession of drugs. In 1990 he was deported from Australia for failing to declare his previous convictions, and in 1993 he was jailed for ten months for further drug offences. Only two days after his release he was arrested for possession of heroin. This time the court recognised that his addiction was an illness, and he was given two years' probation on condition that he received treatment for his addiction.

downwards to disaster more or

Meanwhile, Bristol had come into increasing conflict with the National Trust, which had taken control of Ickworth in 1956, in lieu of death duties owing on his grandfather's estate. The family had been granted free tenancy of a

wing of Ickworth in perpetuity as part of the deal, but a series of disputes with their tenant culminat ed in 1994 when the Trust began moves to have Bristol evicted, on the grounds that he had broken the conditions of the lease. The incidents cited included attacks on visitors to Ickworth by the Marquess's dogs and his habit of racing his beloved collection of classic cars around the estate. The Trust only relented when it became apparent that Bristol was in desperately poor health.

In February 1995 Bristol was admitted to St Mary's Hospital. Paddington. The formerly corpulent marquess was now reported to weigh less than seven stone and to be unable to walk without the aid of sticks. By this stage he was a pathetic figure, who had been reduced to selling the last of his land at Ickworth to cover his debts. Bristol was a more complex figure than the popular perception of him allowed. He was sometimes described as "charismatic" and

many of his friends were in awe of him. He could be highly generous and possessed a certain arrogant and dashing charm. He was also something of a practical joker, albeit a rather sinister one. In one incident, which echoed the Earl-Bishop's celebrated race in its use of others for the Hervey amusement, he had a female American guest sail out into the lake at ickworth in a rubber dinghy, and then sank it with his air rifle.

John Bristol had no children. His half-brother by his father's second marriage, Lord Frederick Hervey, succeeds him in the title.



The Marquess of Bristol: tragic tale of an intelligent man

SIR WILLIAM MARS-JONES

Sir William Mars-Jones, MBE, a Judge of the High Court, 1969-90, died yemerday aged 83. He was born on September 4, 1915.

robably the stock picture that most people carried in their minds of William Mars-Jones was of a rather old-fashioned, strict and severe High Court Judge, very conscious of the dignity and importance of his office. He had tended to model himself on judges of an earlier generation - in particular on Sir Rowland Oliver who had created a great impression on him when he appeared before him as a young barris-ter. However, behind this façade lay a many-sided and; intriguing personality of which the stern exterior was

but a part. No stranger observing him sitting on the Bench in his court could possibly have guessed that he was gazing at a superb mirmic and story-teller who could take off all his judicial colleagues. Nor would anyone have surmised that this stern tudge was a consummate guitarist who could entertain his friends with songs to his own accompaniment on either the ukelele, the guitar or

the piano. In his boyhood days at Denbigh County School he was known as Bill the Post this name derived from the fact that his father, the later Alderman Henry Mars Jones. sometime chairman of the Denbighshire County Council and considerable local potentate, ran the post office in the little village of Llansannan in the Hiraethog hills, as well as numerous other enterprises

all based on that centre. At school, William Lloyd Mars-Jones was greatly influenced by two of his teachers at Denbigh School. The first was the headmaster, W. A. Evans, a strict disciplinarian and believer in the work ethic. The other, who had an even greater influence upon him, was Stan Rees, who was subsequently to become a famous headmaster himself at Llanelli Grammar School. At Denbigh, Rees was the English master and he regularly imparted to his pupils a great love of English interature together with his own command of the Welsh art of the raconteur (of which he was an even greater exponent than Mars-Jones himself), to say

nothing of his feelings of loyalty to University College,

It was to that college's law faculty, then under the guidance of its inspirational head, Professor Thomas Levi, that Mars-Jones went from Denbigh School. At Aberystwyth he distinguished himself academically (taking a first in Law), politically (becoming president of the Union) and in the entertainment world forming a famous double act with Dr Reginald Thomas, sometime thereafter the Minister of the Brick Church on Fifth Avenue in New York.

From Aberystwyth Mars-Jones moved on to St John's College, Cambridge There, pursuing his theatrical interests, he soon became a prominent member of the famous Cambridge Footlights. In the meantime he had joined Gray's inn but, before he could be called to the Bar, the Second World War intervened. Mars-Jones joined the Navy and was called to the Bar at Gray's Inn in bell-bottom trousers in 1939. He eventually became a lieutenant-commender and was an pointed MBE (military)in

On his return from the war Mars-Jones stood as a Labour candidate in the 1945 election for his native constituency of West Denbigh. He ran a most amusing and vigorous campaign rather in tandem with his Liberal opponent and opposed to the sitting Conserva-tive member. Sir Henry Morris-Jones. The latter won with a relatively small majority with Mars-Jones and Garner Evans, the Liberal, splitting the Opposition vote fairly evenly. There is little doubt that, had Mars-Jones succeeded in winning the seat, he would have had a distinguished parliamentary career. Yet his failure to pursue the life of politics was not really surprising: the impression he gave was of having few political ideas of his own. He came from a traditionally Liberal background and his adherence to the Labour Party depended very much on a

liberal interpretation of socialist doctrine. After the general election he icined the Wales and Chester circuit and established a large practice from the chambers of the late Lord Justice Arthian Davies at 1 Farrar's Building in the Temple. One of Mars-



Mars-Jones: a judge of the old school, conscious of the dignity of his office

Jones's greatest qualities was his loyalty to friends and institutions, and there was no doubting his unswerving loyalty to his old circuit. He joined at a time when it was the custom to "follow the circuit" from Assize town to Assize town through each of the counties of Wales and Chesh-

There was a close camaraderie between the members and the vintage of the two decades following the war was very good. Many of the members distinguished themselves as advocates, judges or as politicians — and circuit life was happy, if turnultuous. Mars-Jones served his circuit in

many ways; he was its junior in his early days, subsequently he became its leader and eventually its presiding judge. Shortly before his retirement he was unanimously elected an honorary life member.

He was a formidable and tenacious advocate and a sound lawyer. He had a tremendous capacity for work and mastered every case in which he was involved thoroughly. Extremely methodical in his approach, he tended to probe every point in a case rather than go for the jugular. His opponents learnt to respect his application and courage and his determination in the interests of his client. His

reputation among solicitors was that he was a great fighter for his side. What he lacked in discrimination he made up for in sheer tenacity. His weapon was the broadsword rather than the rapier. His opponents learnt that they could never take anything for granted if they had Bill Mars-Jones against them. He was a successful and admired advocate taking silk in 1957 and leading for the prosecution or the defence in a number of well-known criminal trials -he prosecuted in the notorious Moors Murder trial of 1965 as well as in a variety of civil

It came as no surprise when

he was appointed to the High Court Bench in 1962. There he served in the Queen's Bench Division for the next 21 years (there never seems to have been much question of promo-tion). But his methods as an advocate did not desert him when he moved to the judicial sphere. He applied himself with equal vigour and care to mastering the detail of a case

from the judicial chair. He was extremely methodical in his approach, very even-handed and with an ability to create an imposing "atmosphere" in his court. He was .not a great and creative lawyer but no one could better him at following

the detail of evidence in a complicated case and presenting it in a direct and concise form to a jury. His sympathetic summing-up was thought to have had a good deal to do with the acquittal at the Old Bailey of the actor John Bindon on a murder charge in 1979; but there was never any doubt that he could be stern and forbidding — as he certainly was when he sentenced the Arab terrorist, Nezar Hinsawi, to 45 years' imprisonment (said to be the longest sentence ever imposed by a British court) for trying to blow up an El Al jumbo jet in 1986. He retired from the Bench at the age of 75 in 1990, but was still to be seen in the Garrick Club. From his earliest days at the Bar he lived in Gray's Inn with his devoted wife Sheila. He was very proud to have been Treasurer of the Inn in 1982, but took almost equal pride in his presidency, start-ing in 1995, of the University College of North Wales, Ban-

He threw himself with his customary enthusiasm and vigour into a very successful campaign to raise private money for that distinguished Welsh academic institution. Naturally Welsh-speaking, he was elected an honorary White Bard of the Gorsedd of Bards of the Welsh National Eisteddfod in 1971 and was made an honorary LLD of the University of Wales in 1973.

His wife's death nearly a year ago came as a great blow to him, particularly as, with growing physical disabilities, he had become ever more dependent upon her. He leaves three sons, the middle one of whom, Adam Mars-Jones, is the novelist and short-story writer.

THE RIGHT REV FRANK WEST

The Right Rev Francis (Frank) West, Suffrague Bishop of Taunton, 1962-77, died on January 2 aged 89. He was born on January 9,

TALL handsome and gifted with extraordinary charm. Frank West exercised an effective ministry in Anglican Orders at various levels. Early in life he found a call to ordination, partly through discovering, while taking part in a university mission, his gift for friendship among the workers in an industrial area of Halifax; and, although his work eventually took him to rather more rural spheres, he never lost his ability to get close to "ordinary" people.

A Central churchman with a feel for history and a well-furnished mind, he knew better than most what was meant by a Church that was both Catholic and Reformed, while understanding equally the value of continuity and the necessity for innovation. He could lead worship and preach incisive sermons in such a way as to address the modern world with the wisdom and dignity of tradition.

It was the same with his writing. He produced six or seven books, small but distinguished, on aspects of the Church's history, some involving original research in ar-chives. He also published an able portrait of the famous F. R. Barry, the Bishop of Southwell who made West an archdeacon in his diocese. When he retired to Aldbourne near Marlborough, he added a privately printed history of its lovely church to his published works.

Francis Horner West went to Berkhamsted School, read history and theology at Magdalene College, bridge, and trained for the ministry at Ridley Hall, returning there as Chaplain and Tutor after a happy curacy in the industrial parish of Burmantofts, Leeds, in the Ripon diocese. There followed a move to the York diocese with the incumbency of Starbeck. and, while he was there, the beginning of his service as a Chaplain to the Forces.

Early in the war he was wounded in France when his batman was killed; but he returned to further active service, in North Africa, Italy, and

South East Asia (where he was mentioned in disputches). He was then heavily involved in arranging, and lecturing in. postwar courses - held

abroad and in England - for

prospective ordinands from

the Forces. In 1946 he returned to civilian clerical life and went to the Southwell diocese to become vicar of Upton. While still at Upton, West was made Archdeacon of Newark, and from 1947 exercised this strenuous ministry for 15 years, combining it with responsiblifirst for Upton and then, from 1951, for East Retford, where he also served as rural dean. In 1962, at the invitation of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, he changed dioceses Bishop of Taunton, combining his episcopal duties there for the first nine years with ministering to Dinder, a tiny country parish south-east of Wells, and throughout the whole 15-year period occupying a prebendal stall in the

He retired in 1977 to Aldbourne, after 15 years as a bishop, a period during which he established an especially effective ministry in schools, where he showed a real talent for engaging the young in constructive dialogue. There had been times, both as an archdeacon and as a bishop, when the load of work or the rivalry of the ambitious nearly broke him; but Beryl, his able and devoted wife, whom he had married in 1947 while still at Upton, was a constant source of support — becoming his life-line when age and infirmity overtook him. She survives him, together with a son and a daughter.



Lord Smith, of Marlow Common, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at

Lord Terrington, former member of the Stock Exchange, partner in Sheppards and Chase, 1952-80, of Fairford, Gloucestershire, left estate valued at £200,000 net. Lady Wakefield, wife of Sir

Norman Wakefield, of Brownshill, Stroud, Gloucestershire, left estate valued at £154,321 Lady Fairley of Henley-on-

Thames, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £592,902 net. Santina Maria Haffkin, of Harrow, Middlesex, left estate valued at £2,150,751 net... Freda Bridget Wilson, of Belstead. Ipswich, left estate valued at £2,416,151 net. She left £500 m both Belstead Church and Blaxhall Church. Anne Banks, of Chorley, Lancashire, left estate valued at

Latest wills

don.

the RSPCA; £200 to the RNIB ued at £1,053,372 net. George, Chorley. Thomas George Blumson, of Chalfort St Giles, Bucking-

hamshire, left estate valued at £1,261,791 net. Elizabeth Rogers Bull, of Dallington, Northampton, left estate valued at £1,090,827 net. She left £10,000 to the RNIB and to the National Trust. Francis Ludwig Carston. of

London, left estate valued at £1,262,123 net. ... Raymond Maxwell Ellis, of Ettingshall Park, Wolverhampton, left estate valued at £1,138,721 net. Sylvia Mary Groves, of Erd-

£1,615,220 net. She left £500 to London SW20, left estate valand to the Parish Church of St Juliet Nancy Auidio Jamieson, of Blackwater, Camberley, Surrey, left estate valued at £1,613,741 net.

Brigadier Thomas Neil Me-Micking of London W8. left estate valued at £739,650 net. Gillian Pemberton, of London SW19, left estate valued at £1.174.029 net. She left £1.000 to St John's

Church, Spencer Hill, Wimble-

Rachel Dorothy Sharman, of Lymington, Hampshire, left estate valued at £1,277,774 net. She left £5,000 to the British Red Cross Society; £1,000 each to British Heart Foundation, ington, Birmingham, left estate valued at El, 728,138 net. Campaign, RNIB, RNID, Roy-Florence Mary Hothersall, of al UK Beneficem Association,

Abbeyfield Society, Distressed Gentlefolk's Aid Association, Leonard Cheshire Foundation. Council for the Protection. of Rural England and the National Trust.

Stephen Carey Stedman, farmer, of Woolston, North Cadbury, Yeovil, Somerset, left estate valued at £1,128,366 net. Fanny Elizabeth Stevenson, of Yeadon, Leeds, left estate valued at £1,038,686 net. Nathan Storz, of Hendon, London NW4, left estate val-

Eileen May Ayliffe Tate, of Bishops Hull, Taunton, Somerset, left estate valued at £1.037,688 net. Nicola Georgina Taylor, of Llangynidr, Crickhowell, Powys, left estate valued at

ued at £1,073,717 net.

£1,240,040 net. Robert Woodhead Wadsworth. of Anlaby, East Yorkshire, left estate valued at £1,136,873 net.

PASSING OF AN 'ENORMOUS NAME'

We now see, though few saw then, that the ship which brought home the body of Napoleon to be laid under the gorgeous dome of the Invalides did in effect bring home his nephew. Meanwhile, this strange, meditative, inscrutable man, dark to others, often, doubtless, to himself, was learning everywhere, everything. In long captivity, in Switzerland and in our Metropolis, he had nothing to do but that which Princes often cannot do — to read. observe, think and learn, and watch the star of his destiny. Within the sphere of thought and feeling the man who can think, and feel, and intend, and design is an autocrat. He wants no advisers: he depends on no informers, he is bound to no agents; he is all in all - the first and last in his mental realm. That was the late Emperor's education, as careful when it depended on himself and Fortune as when an Emperor, a nation, and a Royal mother gave their heart and soul to it. It prepared him for Empire.

ON THIS DAY

January 11, 1873 學學學學

At the heart of a long article on Louis Napoleon III was embedded one explanation of the Emperor's nephews failure to match the achievements of his uncle.

but not, as we now see, for Constitutional Government; and not, as we now still more plainly see, for the qualities necessary to success under the overwhelming difficulties of unexpected and unexampled prosperity. It prepared him for plebiscites and coups detat, a portfolio teeming with schemes, new maps of Europe, rectified frontiers, wars for ideas' repaid with territory, intrigues, demonstrations, vast material undertakings, and, in all things, a regard to that which pleases the fancy

and meets the eye. It prepared him for the pageant and the scene, but not for the stern realities of all life, whether public or private - not for the successes only attainable by the full tension and continual exercise of the highest moral and mental faculties. A student may learn, a dreamer may have visions, a thinker may arrive at conclusions or collect and arrange ideas; but if they have to spend the best part of their lives out of the action of life, watching, observing, and patiently expecting, they will be sure to find that when the opportunity does arise they cannot deal with men, except as the bloodless creatures of their own ideal world. For 20 years the world saw, with continual misgiving, the outburst of a long pent-up power, the very Summer of Empire full of leaf and flower, the very Autumn ripening everywhere to decay. Prance was to be dazzled with a succession of grand displays, from the fantastic shows of a Palace, enormous fetes, unequalled Exhibitions, and the chase itself transformed into a forest masquerade, to wars and threats of war, in which glory was the only prize . . .

 $\mathbf{P}_{\mathbf{i}}$

Blair supports Cook

Tony Blair appealed to voters to rise above the personal shortcomings of his ministers after Robin Cook's former wife published an intimate and embarrasing account of their failed marriage. The Prime Minister said that British politics was in danger of being relegated to little more than a gossip column, "an extension of Hollywood", if ministers' private lives remained relentlessly under the microscope...

Government could pay nurses more

The Government could comfortably afford an above-average pay increase for Britain's nurses, in spite of the threat of economic recession this year, according to City forecasts. The predictions suggest that the Government is heading for a budget surplus of up to £10 billion this year because tax receipts have been far higher than expected.

Marguess dead

The Marquess of Bristol, who scandalised society with his debauchery and drug abuse, has died suddenly at his Suffolk home, aged 44...Page l

Europe crisis

Jacques Santer goes efore the European Parliament with his 19 commissioners tonight in an attempt to defuse a censure vote that is certain to inflict heavy polit-..Page l ical damage....

Speaker may go

Betty Boothroyd is considering springing a surprise on the Commons by standing down as Speaker before the next election. Page I

Government relaunch Senior Cabinet ministers will this

week unveil a string of policy initiatives as part of a mini government relaunch designed to wrest the agenda off personalities and onto issues... ...Page 2

Still smiling

The Irish will be taught to be friendlier in a £250,000 government campaign intended to improve the country's reputation for ...Page 3 hospitality...

Kidnap ordeal

Tense negotiations continued for President Saddam Hussein the release of John Brooke, the kidnapped oil worker, after Yemeni ministers promised Britain they will not use force...... Page 3

Chinese choice

Milton Keynes, best known until now for its concrete cows and American-style shopping mails, has become the most popular destination in Britain for people who left Hong Kong_ __Page 6

Mother's shock

Maureen Kearney, a 65-year-old grandmother, was in a West Belfast shopping centre when she spotted the man she blames for the s killing of her son Page 7

Out of balance

A group set up at the Government's request to help employees and employers to achieve a better balance between work and family life is threatening to become a major embarrassment t Page 8

Atrocity alert

The Indian Prime Minister. Atal Behari Vajpayee, visited western India in an attempt to curb a wave of atrocities against Chris-

Clinton DNA test

DNA tests on the 13-year-old Arkansas boy rumoured to be President Clinton's illegimate son have proved negative....

Saddam defiant

gained popular support when Iraq's rubber-stamp parliament urged his Government to reject "unjust" UN resolutions...Page 11

Tintin, the man of the century

Tintin celebrated his seventieth birthday amid agreement in the French-speaking world on his heroic status and fierce debate over his sexuality and politics. The media devoted much time to a portrayal of the Belgian cartoon character as a figure who towered above the 20th century with just one rival, General Charles de Gaulle.



Marger: The catastrophic fall in the crude oil price has forced two former enemies, Enterprise Oil and Lasmo, into discussions that could lead to a £2.3 billion merger of their Page 48 companies.

Newspapers: Trinity, the UK's largest regional newspaper group, pulled out of merger talks with Mirror Group for a second time, amid rumours of disputes in the Mirror Page 48

Millennium: Fears are growing that efforts by large companies to protect their businesses from the millennium bug could lead to a rapid boom followed by a bust at the turn of the century. Evidence is emerging of stockpiling in both raw materials and products as firms attempt to ringience operations...... Page 45

Age trap: Ageism should make us angry. Tom Kirkwood, professor of biological gerontology, says: "Someone said that we are born copies and develop into originals. Older people's life experience make them _Pages 14, 15 unique"

Lisa Armstrong: "In the immediate excitement that greeted Tom Ford's hippy spring collection for Gucci last October, the models' hair seemed a minor footnote. But hair and make-up are never details in a business where a clever cut at the right moment can make a model's career and launch a million imitations." Suddenly it's OK to be a Seventies girl.... ...Pages 16, 17

Hot tickets: From Hollywood to the West End. from the Tate Gallery to the Barbican, Times critics choose their highlights Pages 18, 19 On film; Warren Beatty stars as a

sleazy US Senator in Bulworth,

while Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman team up to cast a spell in Practical Magic and Joseph Fiennes impersonates the Bard in Shakespeare in Love Page 18 At the theatre: Cate Blanchett, Richard Dreyfuss, Rufus Sewell and Klaus Maria Brandauer star on the London stage.

In the galleries: The Tate's large retrospective of Jackson Pollock looks unmissable, while the Monet exhibition at the Royal Academy is set to be the new year's most popular

TOMORROW:

IN THE TIMES

ARTS

A new label: Brian rotic Realism

Griffiths and other artists are leading the way in what's being termed Neu-LAW

How long before the American-style compensation culture conquers Britain?

Leaders: Gianhica Vialli, the Chelsea player-coach, poured scorn on the continuing efforts of Rund Gullit to undermine the achievement of taking his team to the top... Page 25 Football: Manchester United closed the gap on the Premiership leaders when they comfortably defeated West Ham United 4-1 at Old

Trafford Page 29 Cricket: Man of the match Alan Mulially spurred England to a tense eight-run win against Australia in the first of the triangular oneday series at Brishane......Page 27 Page 18 Rugby Union: In the shock of the Tetley Bitter Cup fourth round, Henley travelled to Bedford and thoroughly deserved their famous

low him ...

29-22 victory.... Sknon Barnes: The wives are in agony, not just because they married a darts players - a tough enough break in all conscience - but also because their man is now up there pinging in the 180s..... Page 33 Tennis: Tim Henman, expected to win the final of the Qatar Open in Doha against Germany's Rainer Schuttler, lost 6-4, 5-7, 6-1 to a player more than a hundred places be-

1, 15, 23, 34, 37, Two tickets shared £8.9m; 16 appar , 15, 23, 34, 37, 40, Bonus: 45, £171.189 for five numbers an bonus: 810 won £2.113 for five milinbers; 42,188 won £89 for four; and 801,662 won £10 for three.

Previous: A new series of Dad. (BBC), 8.30pm Review: Shooting the Past was a curate's egg. says Paul Hoggart Pages 46, 47

The Cook book

The Cabinet would not be the stronger for Mr Cook's departure One hope around which the Labour leadership should rally is that this thorny but talented minister can bring an end to the time when he has been an understandably distracted man. _Page 21

Nursing for nurses

Nursing reform is not only a necessary part of the Government's modernisation project, but also a pressing political need if cries of "crisis" are not to continue to emanate from hospital wards... ... Page 21

Ever young

Older people are being brought back to the workplace. Their experience enriches us. Page 21

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

The similarity of the psychological dramas of Cook and Clinton is most striking. Cast both stories as novels, and ask what is the core of the plot....

PETER RIDDELL

The striking feature of the latest polls is how little impact the Mandelson affair has had on public opinion, not how much. The ratings of Mr Blair and Labour are still much higher than at the last election.

7th Marquess of Bristol; Sir Wijflam Mars-Jones, judge; the Right Rev Francis West ___Page 23

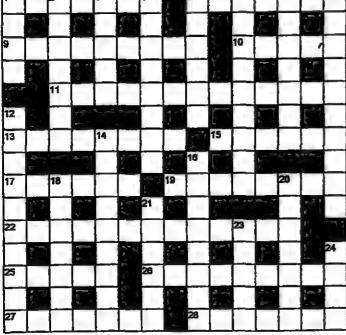
Christ as Che Guevara advert, call for honesty on euro; Roman dates; Cromwell's escurcheon; pig farmers' plight....

For Washington to make use of a body that has been created by the: Security Council of the UN for a specific purpose is not only to thumb ones nose at the world body but to abandon all moral scrupies while arguing, cynically, from the moral high ground

1

- Hong Kong Standard

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,997



- 1 Go like the clappers? (7).
- Change subject, having no time to relax in lodgings (7). 9 A nice long novel suited to one's
- tastes (9). 10 Stage entertainment originally one an agent rejected (5).

 11 Facing similar difficulties, like and Montmorency
- Continental production of English opera, oddly in a French setting (8). 15 Keen to make an impression se
- curing runs (6). lots of cells (6). 19 First-rate judge takes a wife? It's hard to say (5-3).
- 22 How some may play golf. all day and all night (5.3.5).

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 20,996 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will each receive a £20

book token.

- 25 His work was in bars and involved lager (5). 26 Quite bold, developing philosoph ical argument (9).
- Have right to change character at start of book (7). Expression of surprise about unknown person in list (7).
- Principal male removed from head of procession (4). Pair taking in little orphan found ig in little orphan in basket (7).
- Spy from army set-up securing information (5). Approach requiring energy and method (8).
- Money offered model at first (6). offered by artist upset Change to e.g. crime figures may be described thus (9). Something very ugly, such as a
- sty! (7).

 8 Will not admit Tory outsiders into this depressed area (10). 12 Paper addressed point in support
- of iandlord (10). 14 City may be devastated by his sacking (9). 16 Plant giving badger, say, a lot of abdominal pain (8).
- 18 Aboard ship, for example, put up with slander and smears (7). 20 Coins go into it and notes come out (7).
- Money order that's written in Italian and French (6).
 Bribed picture editor (5). tablishment (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LIMITED, 1999 Published and printed and letensed for distribution in electronic and all other derivative forms by Times Newspapers Ltd. PO Bot 485. Virginia Street, Lundon E.I 90%, telephone 0171-782 5000 and also printed at Kitling Road, Present, Merseyside, L34 9HN, adephone 0151-546 2000 Monday, January 11, 1999. Segistered as a newspaper at the Post Office.



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Car reports by fax

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concerns from the arrest of the ears pro-



☐ General: very cold but mostly dry. Light furnes of sleet or snow in eastern England, most likely towards the North See coast. I London, SE, E & NE England, E Anglas mostly douby with scattered steel and anow showers. Wind NE, moderate to fresh. Max 4C (39F).

war, 4C (59F).

□ Central S & Central N England, Mid-lander some wirty showers, mostly dry with some suriny breaks. Wind NE, moder-ate to tresh. May, 4C (39F).

□ Channel Islande, SW & NW England, Wates, Lake District, Isle of Mant mostly dry with surny spells. Wind NE, moderate to fresh. May 5C (41F).
□ Borders, Erthburgh & Dunglae. Abes-

D Borders, Ethnburgh & Dundee, Aber-deen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth,

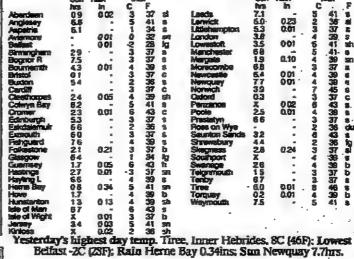
log slowly clearing. Sunny spells t, variable to S. Max 4C (39F). SW & NW Scotland, Glasgow, Argytt-early freezing tog paticles, then dry and bright before rain starts moving into the western tringes. Wind S, moderate. Max 4C

N. Irreland: any early freezing log slowly clearing to sunny spells. Clouder with rain and sleet in west later. Wind light and varia-ble. Max 3C (37F).

DR speakific of Ireland: frosty start, freezing fog in places, Some sunstitue. Rain with anow on halls in evening. Wind light, veriable, to strong S. Mex. 1C (30F)

☐ Outlook: rein and sunny speks.

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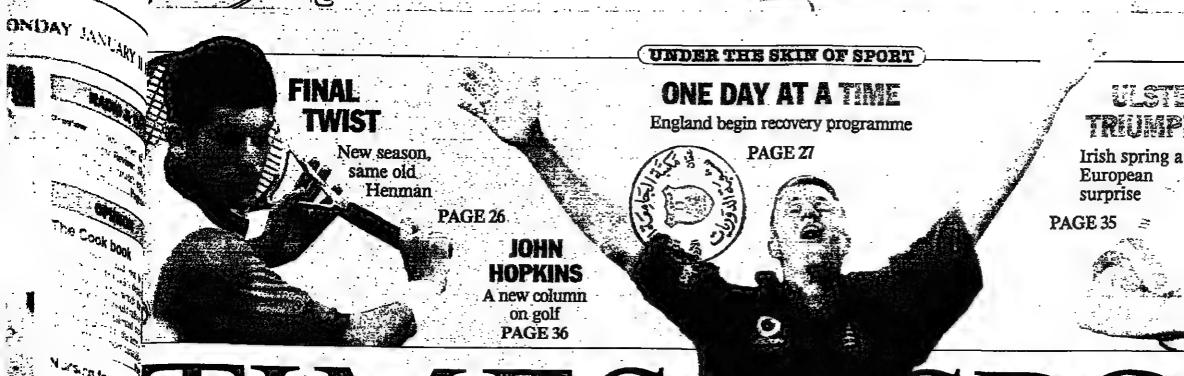
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MONDAY JANUARY 11 1999 CHELSEA MANAGER HAS HARD WORDS FOR PREDECESSOR

Vialli shakes an iron fist at Gullit's barbs

By OLIVER HOLT WITH the gentle assuredness that has become the trademark of his success, Gianhica Vialli, the Chelsea player-coach, poured soom last night on the continuing efforts of Rund Gullit, his predecessor, to undermine his achievements. In the process, he emphasised, perhaps unwittingly, the reasons why he has taken Chelsea to heights that the Dutchman never attained.

Vialli, the man who has taken Chelsea from strength to strength since Gullit's abrupt departure from Stamford Bridge II months ago, had raised a denched fist into the air in celebration at St James' Park on Saturday evening after his side had clinched the gritty yet composed 1-0 victory over Guillit's Newcastle United that allowed top of the FA Carling Premiership.

It was their twentieth league same without defeat, a run that stretches back to August 15, the opening day of the season. It was a game that established a new club record for an unbeaten run, a game that most observers agreed they would never have won during Gullit's tempestuous time at the

Slowly, almost irresistibly, their

plinary problems. Manchester United — forced to wait for 45 min-United — forced to wait for 45 min-utes by a power failure yesterday but comfortably bright enough to beat a poor West Ham United 4-I at Old Trafford — are now third, but are not yet playing with the fluency of potential champions.

Much of Chelsea's success is to do with the team spirit that Vialli has fostered, the lack of ego that has salved the relationship between manager and players that

was souring under Gullit.

Those who spent time at Chelsea's training ground at Harlington while Gullit was in charge sensed a feeling that the club might implode at any moment under the pressures of his management style. The mood is lighter and happier but even more professional now that Vialli is in charge.

Those facts notwithstanding, perate in his straightened circumstances in the North East, chose the aftermath of Newcastle's defeat of Saturday to indulge in another bout of clumsy psychological war-fare with Vialli.

Mining the same seam that he had explored on Friday, when he claimed that Vialli had merely copied his methods and used his rota-tion system, Gullit's bitterness betrayed itself again when he insistTOP OF THE TABLE

...21 10 10 1 32 17 4021 11 7 3 31 20 4021 10 6 3 43 24 38 ...21 9 9 3 22 11 3621 8 9 4 34 20 33

"If he is trying to be smart, we will not fall for that," Vialli said. "Everyone can say what they think, but it is wrong to say that a team must win the championship.
This is a game. It is not a war or something like that. Everybody must do their best, but that is all they can do and I am very pleased with my players after the way they

We are doing our best. We are getting a few results now and it means that someone is going to have to do well to do better than us. But there is still no question that we have to win the title. We are just pleased because we are back at the top of the table. It is a great feeling to be up there.

"As far as I was concerned, this game was not about Ruud Gullit versus Gianluca Vialli, it was about Newcastle versus Chelsea. Football clubs are not just about one man. Ruud did a great job for Chelsea and when he left, I tried to

continue where he left off, but I did things my way and brought in my own ideas. I will owe something to him if I succeed here, but that is obvious. If he wins the championship with Newcastle, he will owe some-thing to Kevin Keegan and Kenny Dalglish, too.
"I inherited a very good team, but when that harmons the pres-

but when that happens the pressure is sometimes greater because you have to produce. Sometimes when you take over a bad team, it is easier to do the job. There is more room for improvement."

In all Gullit's assertions about the Chelsea team being his creation, about how Vialli has only made two signings, it has been left unsaid how important those signings were. One of Gullit's great weaknesses was his apparent inability to identify Frank Sinclair as the team's Achilles' heel at right Lebocuf and Michael Duberry at centre back was also a flaw.

Vialli has fixed that with the signings of Albert Perrer and Marcel Desailly, the World Cup's best defender, and the Chelsea defence, formerly a laughing stock, has conceded fewer league goals than any except Arsenal. In their new player-coach, they have found a man whose substance outweighs his considerable style, not the other way around.

United win, page 29 Football, pages 28-33



Scaled with a kiss: Petrescu celebrates scoring the winner by kissing Wise, but it was determined defence, as exemplified by Duberry, left, and Lebocuf, that made the difference



perfect start to Tim Henman's

year - reaching the final of

ranked qualifier from Germa-

over the course of two hours,

dismantled the world No 7 to

win his first ATP Tour final

Not that Henman could

complain about the result. If

he started slowly, he more

than made up for it as the

match progressed and the bat-tle of wits produced some star-

tling rallies and some truly ex-

cellent winners, most of them

coming from Schuttler. Pound-

ing Henman from the baseline

and hurting him time and again with his forehand, he left Henman with no margin

for error. What would normal-

ly have been an outright win-

ner was sent straight back, of-ten beyond the Briton's flailing

The second set brought the

THOMAS ENOVIST, of Swe-

den, halted the unbeaten run

of Lleyton Hewitt in the Aus-

tralian men's hard court cham-

Enquist the No 2 seed,

dropped the first set, but

fought back to overrun the

17-year-old from Adelaide 4-6

6-1, 6-2 in his comeback after

ankie surgery. Conchita Martinez, of

pionship in Adelaide.

Enqvist is a hurdle

too far for Hewitt

THE Super League clubs are due to meet the board of Super League Europe (SLE) today to discuss the position of Maurice Lindsay as managing director.

Haydock.

The pitches equate to more than 100 meetings a year and while theoretically Lindsay could be represented in his absence, there is concern over his six-figure salary at SLE being paid by the Rugby Foot-ball League (RFL), his former employers, until October, when the clubs themselves must meet the cost of Lindsay

Wendell Sailor, the Brisbane Broncos and Australia wing, who is playing rugby union as an amateur for Leeds Tykes, will have to pay damages to Wigan Warriors after a High Court judgment. Wigan maintained that Sailor had agreed a £500,000 twoyear contract with them. starting this year.

Schuttler rips up final script as Henman falters

FROM ALIX RAMSAY IN DOHA

IT HAD been scheduled as the ulactured seven break points. but still Schuttler would not lie down. He was so frustrated by the opening tournament of the missing the third that, in a season and facing a lowlyrare show of temper, he smashed his racket to the court to earn a warning from ny. It could not get any better than that. Unfortunately, the script was not allowing for the style and quality of Rainer Schuttler, a 22-year-old hopeful from Bad Hamburg, who, the umpire for racket abuse. Eventually, after thr 40min of sweat and struggle, it was Schuttler who showed the merest hint of weakness, dropping his service and the set with a double fault.

Yet having given his all to level the match, Henman was caught at the start of the third set. Broken in the opening game, he was always struggling to get back on terms, while Schuttler was going from strength to strength. If the shot was not perfect, Schuttler punished it, keeping Henman at the back of the court and running him ragged. He broke again in the fifth game to take a 4-l lead and, by the time that Henman was serving to stay in the match, there was nothing left in the tank.

Schuttler may be ranked more than 100 places below Henman, but the Great Britain No I had less than happy

lan, of Australia, in their first-

round match at the Sydney In-

ternational tournament, win-

Alicia Molik, the Australian

teenager, beat Natasha Zvere-

va, the No 16 seed, of Belarus,

6-3, 6-4, to set up a second

round meeting with Martina Hingis, the world No. 2.

Jelena Dokic, the 15-year-old world junior champion, belped Australia to win the

rientated by the sunlight, for they are creatures of the night. They are about as happy at

this time of day as a thousand

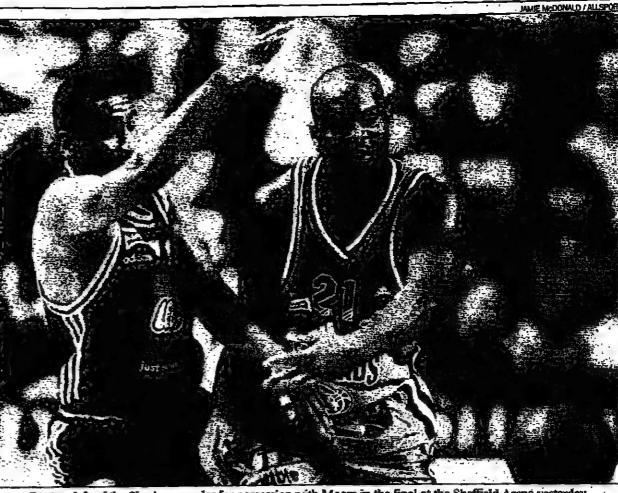
Hopman Cup.

ings last year, when the wheels were starting to fall off his game, Henman opted to play an extra tournament in Split only to lose to the German in the first round. Just when he was looking for a little confidence booster, Schuttler served only to ease Henman on his way to a run of first-round defeats.

Given their previous encounters, Henman was not going to take his opponent lightly. Schuttler had battled his way through three rounds of quali-fying before scything through the seeds in the main draw, disposing of Goran Ivanisevic and Cedric Pioline in consecutive matches.

Nevertheless, despite his defeat in the final, this has been an impressive week for Henman. He arrived here straight from his Christmas break and hit the ground running. His opponents have not been of the highest calibre, but they contrived to test all aspects of his game and, until the decider, he came up trumps on each oc-His serve-and-volley game

was effective and, when forced to play from the back of the court, his groundstrokes served him well. When he had to fight, as he did against Jeff Tarango, he delivered the goods and when faced with a straightforward encounter as against Sjeng Schalken and Karim Alami — he kept his concentration from start to finish. Before his meeting with Schuttier, Henman said: "I don't think Sjeng played as well as he would have liked, but that performance was pretty consistent. Against Alami, once I got the first set under my belt, I just wanted to keep on. To come through some of the matches the way I have this week and to do it so early in the season gives me a lot of



Renton, left, of the Sharks, grapples for possession with Moore in the final at the Sheffield Arena yesterday

Myers proves catalyst for victory

Sheffield Sharks turned first to relief and then to undisguised glee yesterday when they captured the Sainsbury's Classic Cola National Cup for the first time since 1995 with a gripping 67-65 victory over Greater London Leopards.

It mattered not to the Sharks or Chris Finch, their coach, that they had scrapped their way to victory in the Sheffield Arena, recording the lowest score by final winners. In Terrell Myers, who collected 29 points besides gathering seven rebounds, they had the obvious recipient of the most valuable player award.

Yet, like his team-mates, Myers had to fulfil a fixture that the Sharks could have done without on Friday, when they were taken to double overtime by Birmingham Bullets before gaining the victory that took them joint-top of the Budweiser League. Finch, who wanted the game postponed, argued with the hind-sight of victory: "If players are By Nicholas Harling

tired going into a cup final, they shouldn't be playing." Finch had been incensed, too, that the Leopards, overwhelmed by margins of 25 and 34 points in league fixtures between the teams this season, had been allowed, at short notice, to reinforce their squad with Rashod Johnson, a new American 6ft lin guard. Johnson's 15 points helped the Leopards' cause, but Finch could have been excused later for gloating when the product of Western Michigan University missed the shot that cost the Leopards victory.

When Johnson's threepoint attempt came off the rim 3sec from time, desperate bands clutched unavailingly for the rebound. The ball was still bouncing around when the buzzer rescued the Sharks. Appropriately, that meant that Myers was the match winner. Taking a slick pass from Todd Cauthorn, 26sec earlier,

ket to complete his haul. Most of his points had come from farther out. Two of his trio of three pointers came during a 10-2 flurry just after the interval, enabling the Sharks to build on their 39-36 advantage

and open a 55-44 gap.
With Johnson, Robert Youngblood and Eric Burks all on three fouls, the Leopards were in trouble, but, if there is one team that can never be discounted in adversity, it is Billy Mims's squad. "We were playing our style of game," Finch said. "Maybe it was a case of us relaxing when we were looking for the knockout punch."

Whatever it was, the Leon ards stormed back to lead 64-61, having prevented the Sharks from scoring for six minutes, during which time their own Johnson — Wilbur missed two free throws. Johnson's vulnerability on the line was the chief reason why

throws, yet, with his eight rebounds, only two less than Cauthorn for the Sharks. Wilbur Johnson more than made amends. They mur-dered us on the rebounds," Mims said. It was a department in which he had expected to match the hosts.

However, Mims may have anticipated his side's recovery, he cannot have foreseer the manner in which it fell flat The 1997 winners bad made most of the early running, with Tim Moore and Youngblood the chief scorers, but, now in front again, they could not stay there.

Significantly, there was lit-tle help from their back court, where Eric Burks once again failed to live up to his reputa-tion. He conceded the advantage not only to Myers, but also to Travis Conlan, whose quick hands brought him 16 points - but Myers was the catalyst. "I have the utmost confidence in him making things happen," Finch said.

Sanders takes comfort indoors

Mull pave

By David Rhys Jones

GRIFF SANDERS may be the subject of a ten-year suspension from the game, but that could not stop him giving the England indoor selectors a weekend in the international trials at Bournemouth.

Sanders, 26, of the Teignbridge club, wrote a cryptic nessage, maligning the couny secretary, on a scorecard at he South West championships in August, resulting in the now well-chronicled punishment, but, while the ban, imposed in September, was implemented by the outdoor authorities. Sanders is free to play indoors and has been a key player in Devon's march to the semi-finals of the Liber

On Saturday, he played, third man in John Wickham's South West rink, which defeated the quartet of Tony Allcock, 19-13, and he was again to the fore yesterday as Wickham's team dispatched Andy Thomson's rink, 20-8.

Mike Willis, the England president, said: "Griff's cer-

tainly got talent and, as far as we're concerned, his behaviour has been impeccable. We know he has problems with the outdoor authorities, but he seems to behave himself indoors. *

The decision to turn the trials into a competitive occasion. with regional teams playing for the Peter Brimble Trophyse was welcomed by the players as was the expansion of the event into a round-robin tournament. The rinks slapped by Allcock and David Ward both suffered three defeats, however, while Thomson lost twice. With England's dismal record in the past seven years, there may be wholesale changes.

Sanders could be among the newcomers, while members of the North team, who finished top of the league and took the trophy, will be hoping for a reward when the side is an-

heb?le

RESTRICT LA

RUGBY LEAGUE

Odds are agamst Lindsay

The clubs want to know how Lindsay, whose two-year contract ends after the forthcoming season, can continue to function in the job satisfactorily while expanding his horse racing interests. Last month, Lindsay paid more than £200,000 for racecourse betting pitches at Cheltenham, York, Doncaster and

or a successor.

His first season at SLE brought a renegotiated five-year television contract up to 2003, new sponsors, in the form of JJB Sports, and a successful first Super League

The world darts championship is unique, Mel Webb discovers

t is a little after noon as they wander about distractedly, blinking. Mole-like, they seem disconsisted they seem business in smoke-filled rooms

Count Draculas, but powerless to resist the spectacle of stakes being metaphorically driven through the hearts of their anti-heroes by the men print in their road maps and actually found the place, have died a thousand deaths at the they idolise. The denizens of darts are abroad. Saturday was semi-final day in the Embassy world bloodless warfare taking place darts championship and, just up there on the oche. Saturday as in any other knockout comwas no different.

The Lakeside Club spends petitions, it was a day of agony and ecstasy. To be beaten in much of its life as a cavernous the first round is one thing: to night-spot that, in its time, has get within touching distance of the big one, only to be sent played host to such purveyors of popular culture as Roy packing, quite another. Semi-finals are wonderful, awful, "Chubby" Brown and Bernard Manning, but for this event it is transformed into the bloody and beautiful and these were no different. Somemother of all smoke-filled how, the whole thing was tooms, a temple of rampant almade exponentially worse by coholic consumerism whose the fact that darts at this hour ritual libation is cool, chemijust did not feel right; like eatcal, amber-coloured and fizzy ing tiramisu for breakfast. and comes in a straight glass Football has its Wembley. or six. The supplicants' robes are an obeisance to St Polyescricket its Lord's, golf its St Andrews. Darts has the Lakeside ter, the patron saint of shiny Club in a village called Frim-ley Green that is nominally in man-made fibre, and their gods are made more godlike for their very similarity to Surrey but is actually nowhere

in particular. For a large those who worship them. majority of the year. Frimley There are those who say that darts is not sport, but if one definition of sport is the pit-Green prefers to remain anonymous, but for eight days ting of one man against another, head-to-head, in a contest every January it becomes a place that demands to be visitinvolving hand, eye and the ability to project a missile beted at least once in the lifetime of a darts fan: see Frimley ter than the other guy, an exer-Each session of these charncise in skill and tactics and concentration with a winner and a pionships has been filled by 1,200 roaring, arm-waving, celloser, then darts is sport. If ebrating, weeping dartophiles. sport is that which can reduce who, having read the small strong men to tears in defeat, then darts is sport. If archery is sport, so is darts.

It is a small irony that the plasma from which darts draws its lifeblood is the very thing that its critics use to denigrate it. Without the public house and the social club, two of the staples of British life, darts would not exist, but the booze-and-lags culture that is inextricably woven into the warp and west of the game is at once its greatest strength and its most potentially

damaging weakness. So much so that, in 1989, the British Darts Organisation, the organisers of the Embassy event, banned its players from either smoking or drinking publicly when in world cham-pionship action. Thus, when the four semi-finalists walked on stage on Saturday, there was not a glass not yet a cigarette-end in sight. Except in the audience, where there was alcohol and nicotine overkill. The matches themselves were anti-climactic, not that anybody could have guessed from the mayhem going on in the auditorium as the fumes from a thousand cigarettes and as many pints permeated the air.

Ray Barneveld, the Dutchman defending the title that he won last year, trampled all over Chris Mason, an intense young West Countryman, who, after being beaten 5-2,



Barneveld in action during his semi-final win over Mason

have nothing left in my body to give. But I'm a fighter and a warrior and I'll keep coming back until I achieve my

dream." Cripes.

As quotes go, it was pretty potent stuff, but Barneveld. who stopped being a postman after a ticker-tape reception back home in The Hague as a result of his victory last year. was no slouch with the imagery himself. "There was an angel on my shoulder today," he said. It was a wonder it did not fall off, what with all that clenched-fist stuff at the end, but it demonstrated, if nothing else, angels' powers of adhe-sion, especially on shoulders. The other semi-final pitted

Ronnie Baxter, a fast-shooting Lancastrian clad in an ersatz red football shirt, against Andy Fordham, a gentle, longhaired mountain of a man playing in his third semi-final in five years. Fordham, a publican from Woolwich, won the first leg of the first set, then lost the next 11 legs before he won another. When he did stir himself, it was too late and Baxter, the quiet man, was on the cusp of a 5-1 victory. And then suddenly, with the

last muted "thunk" of dart into board, it was all over. The lights on the oche dimmed, the people filed out. Back to the real world. Back, blessedly, to the darkness outside. Frimley Green was, again, No-Place, England. The theatre of dreams was restored to anonymity. It was, in a strange sort of way, reassuring.

Simon Barnes, page 35

Rolph lands golden haul in Hong Kong

SWINNING: Susan Rolph, of Great Britain, has three gold medals after the second day of competition in the FINA World Cup short-course championships, the same number as Kelly Stefanyshyn, of Canada, and Sophia Skou, of Denmark, Rolph won the 100 metres freestyle in 55.52sec, before adding the 100 metres individual medley in lmin 2.58sec. She shared the gold in the 50 metres freestyle with Skou when they finished in a dead-heat on Saturday. Stefanyshyn took the 100 metres backstroke in lmin 0.75sec yesterday, a day after she won the 50 metres backstroke and the 200 metres backstroke. 50 metres backstroke and the 200 metres backstroke. Michael" Cole, of Britain, finished third in the men's 400 metres individual medley on Saturday in a time of 4min 25.31sec. The race was won by Tom Dolan, of the United States, in a time of 4min 19.96sec, ahead of Fong Lik-Sun; of Hong Kong.

Knight claims first title

ECYCLING: Steve Knight won his first national senior cyclo-cross championship yesterday in the 22-kilometre race at Sutton Park, Birmingham, to bring his medal haul to three in as many years (Peter Bryan writes). He took bronze last year. and silver in 1997. Knight, 32, never gave up the chase for victory from his two main rivals, Nick Craig, the defending champion, and Barrie Clarke, the winner two years ago, even though, with five kilometres left, it appeared that Craig would retain the title. Knight's persistence was rewarded when he went clear in the uphill final kilometre to win by l4sec.

Limo makes fast start

ATHLETICS: Richard Limo, of Kenya, the runner-up in the world junior cross-country championships in 1998, won the first of this year's International Amateur Athletic Federation world cross-country permit meetings at Amorebieta in Spain yesterday. Limo completed the undulating 10.8-kilometre course in 33min 53sec. Gete Warni, of Ethiopa, the 1996 world champion, was a clear winner of the women's 6.3-kilometre

Hall triumphs again

E BADMINTON: Darren Hall secured a record fourth Grand Slam men's singles title in one season when he beat Colin Haughton, of Manchester, 15-11, 15-3, in the Friends Provident Grand Slam series in Portsmouth. In the women's singles.
Kelly Morgan overwhelmed Julia Mann, the England No I,
in 31 minutes. Jo Goode and Donna Kellogg took the
women's doubles, while the men's doubles was won by
Nathan Robertson and Julian Robertson.

Fu continues to climb

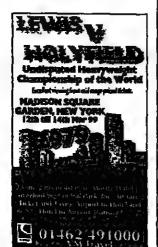
E SHOOKER: Marco Fu overcame an old rival to start his year on a winning note in the Regal Scottish Open at Blackpool.
yesterday. The 21-year-old from Hong Kong heat Stuart
Bingham, of Basildon, 5-3 to reach the final qualifying round
of the tournament and record his 21st victory in 26
world-ranking event matches so far this season. Fu has climbed 331 places to No 46 in the world rankings this season.

Schlesser in command

MOTOR RALLYING: Jean-Louis Schlesser, of France, won the ninth stage of the Dakar Rally vesterday to open a big lead over his nearest rival. Miguel Prieto, of Spain. Schlesser, in a car he designed himself, won the 300-kilometre timed section of the stage by 7min from Kenjiro Shinozuka, of Japan. Prieto, only 2min 10sec behind Schlesser as the start, found himself 9min 25sec adrift after finishing third

ICE HOCKEY: MANCHESTER GO SIX POINTS CLEAR AT TOP OF SUPERLEAGUE

Storm take overtime initiative



MANCHESTER Storm completed a productive weekend yesterday, beating Sheffield Steelers 5-2 at the NEM Arena after their 3-2 win over Ayr Scottish Eagles on Friday. It took overtime for the Storm to earn their two points against Ayr, even though Brad Rubachuk and Jeff Tomlinson had given them a 2-0 lead in the first eight min-

Green and die . . .

However, Ayr showed great resilience, with Shawn Byram scoring twice to take the game into overtime. Frank Pietrangelo, in the Storm goal, showed his worth by making a brilliant save to deny Kevin Hoffman early in the extra session, before Stefan Ketola scored the winning goal with six minBY NORMAN DE MESQUIYA

Manchester's victory yesterday was a little more straightforward. Kelly Askew gave them the lead after only Sisec, when he slipped the puck under Grant Sjervn in the Sheffield goal.

Teeder Wynne levelled maners before the first interval, but Dave Morrison scored the only goal of the second period to restore the Manchester lead and goals by Rob Robinson - his first of the season - and Jeff Jablonski in the space of 47ser put the game beyond Sheffield. Jason Heywood did pull one back for the Steelers, but Jahlonski scored his second and Manchester's fifth in the dying moments to take the Storm six points clear of Cardiff Devils at the top of the Sekonda Super-

in the only Superleague fixture on Saturday, Nortingham Panthers had a convincing 8-3 win over London Knights. Paul Adey scored the only goal of the first period for the Panthers. but, within five minutes of the restart, Mike Harding had brought London level. The Panthers then took the game over, with goals from Adey, Graham Garden and two goals from Jason

Weaver putting them 5-1 ahead. The Panthers continued to dominate in the third period, with both Adey and Weaver taking their evening's tally to three goals as London once again showed themselves to be not quite good enough for this league.

FOOTBALL

Arsenal put 11 past Chelsea

ARSENAL, the Axa FA Women's Cupholders, cruised through to the fifth round of this season's competition with an emphatic II-0 win against Chelsea at Beaconsfield Justine Lorton and Marieanne Spacey scored hattricks while Rachel Yankey and Kelly

Few each added two goals. Karen Walker, the England striker. scored four times as Doncaster Belles beat Canary Racers 6-0. Three of Walker's goals were headers.

After going behind to an early goal by Stacey Daniel, Southampton Saints recovered to beat Leeds City Vixens 24. Anna Dimsdale equalised for the Premier League side before Lisa Lan-grish scored the decisive goal.

مكذله فالإعلى

THE TIMES MONDAY JANUARY II 1999

CRICKET

Mullally's best paves way for Winning start

FROM MICHAEL HENDERSON IN BRISBANE

BRISBANE (England won-toss): England beat Australia by eight runs (D/l method)

AFTER a bracing end to the Test series, which brought England victory in Melbourne and an honourable defeat in Sydney, this rain-affected match was thin stuff and England won it after drizzle had taken a 16-over bite out of the Australia innings.
With nine games left, before

the best-of-three final, England will be taking nothing for granted and nor should they. A record of nine losses out of the past 12 one-day matches sug-rests that they might not win many more. There were international debuts for Mark Alleyne, the Gloucestershire cap-tain, and Vince Wells, of Leicestershire. They made a dozen runs between them, nothing spectacular, but Alleyne did contribute a run-out.

The man who will remember this day most vividly is Alan Mullally, who was distinctly peeved to be excluded from the last Test. He was not in the original party of 37 nomi-nated for the World Cup, but he will probably be in the list when it is whittled down to 15 by the end of next month. He was the man of the match here for taking four for 18, the best one-day return by an English bowler in Australia.

They were four good wickets, too, so that when Julian joined Bevan, Australia were 48 for five, They did well in the end to get so close and it was all down to Bevan, who excels in this form of the game. He re-quired ten runs from the last three balls of the innings, but Gough proved to be too canny.

The next six months are crucial for England if they are to maintain, or better still, lift the profile of the game. The open-ing World Cup match, against Sri Lanka, their opponents today, is at Lord's on May 14, yet



Warner run out by Alleyne

100
9
McGrath 30
0
10
iemion 8

nun out fileGrath/Gilchish...2

A D Mulially did not bet.

(Croft 10).

BOWLING: McGrath 10-1-24-2 (2 fours, 4-1-12-0 2-0-2-1, 4-0-10-1); Date 19-3-25-2 (w.2.3 fours; one spell); Frending 10-0-32-5 (w.1.1 four, 4-0-11-1, 4-0-15-1, 2-0-7-0); Julian 5-0-29-1 (rb.1; w.2. 1 se, 2 fours; 3-0-17-0, 2-0-12-1); Warme 10-0-42-0 (w.2.8 fours; 7-0-20-0; 3-0-20-0); Blewett 5-0-21-0 (w.1; 1 four; one scell.

Score after 15 overs: 45 for 3

AUSTRALIA

SCOREBOARD FROM BRISBANE

Total (9 wkts, 36 overs, 17 (min)......14 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-24 (M E Waugh 9), 2-46 (Ponling 7), 3-47 (Alarhyn 0), 4-48 (Mar-lyn D), 5-48 (Bevan 0), 5-94 (Bevan 20), 7-117 (Bevan 35), 8-129 (Bevan 45), 9-142

Croft 7-0-34-3 by 1; one spell; Alleyon 1-0-7-0 [1 four, 1] one spell; Alleyon 1-0-7-0 [1 four, 1] one spell; Alleyon 1-0-34-0 [1 four, 1] one spell; Alleyon 100 minutes by rein, Innings reduced to 38 oversend stript sevised to 153. Fielding restrictions imposed for first 10 overs.

Score after 10 overs: 48 for 3. England won by 8 runs

Match award; A D Mullelly. Match awards, A D Multally.
Umplesses D J Harper and A J McQuillan.
Third couplins: P D Parler.
Radiorate, P L van der Monee (South Africa).
ENGLAMD MATCHES TO COME: 11
June v Sri Lanka (Brisbanel); 15 June v Australia (Sydney); 16 June v Sti Lanka (Matches); 17 June v Australia (Sydney); 18 June v Sti Lanka (Matches); 25 June v Sti Lanka (Matches); 19 June v Sti Lanka (Patrit); 3 Febr v Australia (Sydney); 10 Febr Frat Final (Sydney); 72 Febr Second Final (Matches); 14 Febr Third Final (Matches).
Li Corpolated by 88 Frindsil Corporated by Ball Frindell

they have no idea what their best side is. Alec Stewart is the captain; that much is known. Otherwise, it is all a bit of a mish-mash. The all-rounder policy, favoured when England won a competition on the slow pitches of Sharjah 13 months ago, has apparently been discarded. Dougle Brown and Matthew Fleming are not here and neither is Ally Brown, the big-hitting Surrey

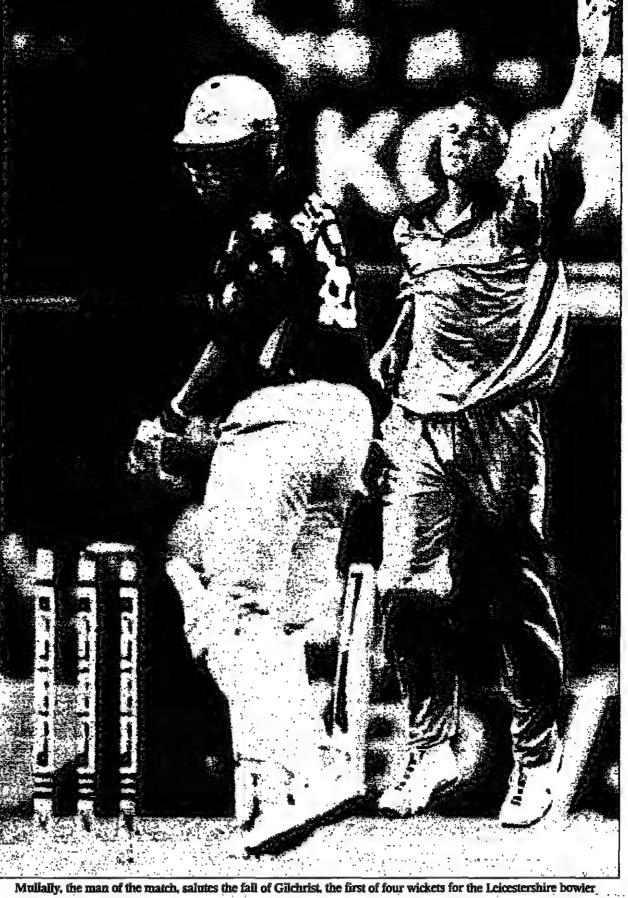
Instead, Alleyne and Wells have been chosen and the over-30 club is also represented by the captain, Hick and Fairbrother. There aren't many gazelles in that lot, nor is it absolutely clear to what Wells owes his promotion, other than being a late develope who can bat a bit and bowl, if asked. He played a horrid stroke yesterday, charging Dale and playing grotesquely across the line. Although anybody can get out to a poor shot in one-day cricket, this was

ghastly. England's preparation is confused by the conflicting demands of one-day cricket here, in Sharjah, which they revisit in March, and in their own country. Pitches at Worcester and Northampton in May bear little resemblance to what they can expect to play on be-fore then. That is true for the others as well, but, on the whole, those countries know what their best side looks like. England are still trying to find

Fairbrother, who played in one day final for Lancashire 15 years ago, must be in with a shout. He was a World Cup finalist in Melbourne in 1992, when he sought to keep England afloat against Pakistan, and, although he is here in Thorpe's stead, he remains an outstanding one-day player, capable of advancing the score by stealth.

England owed him a lot after Dale, McGrath and Stewart, Wells and Hick all before Warne brought himself on, though Hick was unlucky to be given out caught off the pad. Unbacky or not, he would do well to make some runs before long. He is an automatic choice in the one-day team and for two years has done little to

justify his inclusion. Knight, opening the face of his bat, was caught behind. Hollioake, tucked up by Fleming, edged another catch to Gilchrist. Alleyne, looking for a second run to fine leg after he paddled Warne round the cor-



driving Julian straight for six, spooned a dolly to extra cover. Through all this mess, Fair-

brother played sensibly, running the singles, taking hits where he could, knowing all the time that games like this can surprise one. He's not a fool. By the time that McGrath hit his off stump with a fine yorker nine overs from the end, he had gathered 47 decent runs. They were to prove vital, but no more vital than the 42 that Croft and Gough shared in an unbroken ninth-wicket

.ncr, failed to beat McGrath's . Would it be enough? The at that - when the batsman Yorkshire team-mate would throw Ealham, the ball after way that Australia set off nicked one from Hollioake not be the victor. Bevan finwhen the drizzle relented, Waugh and Gilchrist taking 32 from Gough's first three overs, suggested that no. it would not be. Then Mulially struck, and struck again, and found the striking to his lik-ing. Waugh and Gilchrist and

> had given the game away. They would have given it up altogether if Bevan had been dismissed for 12, as he should have been. Stewart ignored a catch - a straightforward one

Ponting gone. Then Blewett, cutting Ealham, and Martyn

for ducks. Suddenly, Australia

into his pads, preferring to go up for a leg-before shout. Bev-an rode his luck and passed 3.000 runs in one-day internationals, at the convincing aver-

Warne, chancing a run to mid-on, fell to Alleyne's lefthanded swoop and right-handed throw. There were 27 needed from three overs: Fleming belted a catch to long-off, where Mullally, sliding in, eyes half-closed, was the eccentric catcher. Thirteen from the last over: Gough yorked Dale, then made sure his former

ished 56 not out from 76 balls and hit only two of them to the pickets, so England emerged with some credit. They bowled tidily with a wet ball and fielded reasonably. But they should not let this go to their heads. ☐ The three-nation series has each country playing ten matches, meeting the other two on five separate occasions between yesterday and Febru-ary 7. Two points are awarded for a win and the top two teams progress to the three-

match finals round between February 10 and 14.

Tests come first for England in South Africa tour

BY IVO TENNANT

ENGLAND'S hectic international schedule continues next winter with a tour to South Africa that will be two weeks longer than when they were last there, under the captaincy of Mike Atherton, in 1995-96. It includes five Test matches culminates in a triangular tournament and continues with three one-day matches in Harare Zimbabwe.

The Tests commence in Joharmesburg. The third in the series will start on Boxing Day in Durban and the fourth will be held in Cape Town, to coincide with the new year holidays and the start of the millennium. Newlands, which has been transformed into a stadium, will have an additional stand erected by then.

One of the reasons for this is because Dr Ali Bacher, the managing director of the United Cricket Board of South Africa, anticipates that the visit of England will attract record crowds for a series in the Republic. "If the weather is fine, we anticipate a total attendance of around 350,000," he said. This would be considerably more than for the present series against West Indies, who have brought few sup-porters with them, and when England were last in the country, which coincided with an unusually wet summer.

There will not be a fixture in Soweto on this occasion, but two matches will be staged in Lenasia and Alice, which are termed "disadvantaged areas".

Above all, the tour will determine whether South Africa's side is chosen on merit, as their selectors would wish, or if the pressure from the Government is such that "players of colour" will have to be included even if they are not up to Test class. England will again take separate squads for the Test Matches and the one-day internationals. ITENERARY: October 27: arnvo

ion XI. 14-13: Fitth Test, Centuriors v South Anca. 20: Potchessistrooms v North West. 23: One-day International, Blocarinational, Cape Town: v South Anca. 28: One-day International, Paart v Zmbabwe 30: One-day International, Facts v Zmbabwe 30: One-day International, Kinderley; v Zmbabwe February 3: One-day International, Kinderley; v Zmbabwe February 3: One-day International, Kinderley; v Zmbabwe 5: One-day International Indicates and International, Bulgwayor v Zmbabwe. 18: Second one-day International, Harares v Zmbabwe. 20: Fourth one-day International, Harares v Zmbabwe. 20: Fourth one-day International, Harares v Zmbabwe.

Dravid's century in vain

TAUPO (India won toss): New Zealand beat India by five

NEW ZEALAND beat India by five wickets in the opening day-night cricket international at Owen Delany Park here on . Saturday after a floodlight failure left the home side chasing." a reduced victory target. In reply to India's 257, New

Zealand were 168 for three off 304 overs when the floodlights went out, causing a 50-minute delay. New Zealand's target was recalculated to an additional 33 runs off 8.2 overs and those runs were knocked off with an over to spare leaving the home team

Mohammad Azharuddin, By Our Sports Staff

the India captam, said that it was frustrating to come out on the wrong side of a re-calculation, but players had to learn to cope with the disappointment. "They are the conditions for the World Cup, so we have to get used to them," Azharuddin said. I have no major complaints. It was unfortunate that

it happened at a crucial time." The match was evenly poised with India having just third ball after the restart, Chris Cairns was caught at long-off, but Adam Parore and Chris Harris steered New Zealand to within six runs of the

target. After Harris was run out for 13, Dion Nash joined Parore to score the winning runs. The New Zealand innings included a 105-run part-nership between McMillan and Matthew Horne. Earlier, Rahul Dravid had scored his third century against New Zealand in six

Dravid scored 123 not out, his hundred coming in 112 balls and including eight fours. dismissed Craig McMillan for New Zealand were handi-73. when the stadium was plunged into darkness. On the of Stephen Fleming, their captain, to a groin injury. He is in doubt for the remaining four matches in the series.

days. After scores of 190 and

103 not out in the second Test.

Scoreboard, page 39

ICC delays decision on match-fixing

THE International Cricket Council (ICC) said yesterday that it will not make any decisions until today on how it plans to tackle the problem of match-fixing in the sport. After its meeting in Christ-church, the ICC declined to comment on its initial discussions, although the Australian and Pakistan cricket boards used the opportunity to present a unified front.

Denis Rogers, the Australian Cricket Board (ACB) chairman, told a news conference that Australia had resolved its differences with Pakistan. although it had no intention of apologising for its handling

of the affair. "We accept each other's views and the matter's been resolved," Rogers said. "Neither had to apologise to each other. That's what friendships are about. We are not bitter enemies. We have established a very close friendship. There is no bitterness."

Khalid Mahmood, the president of the Pakistan Cricket Board, agreed. 'There has been a lack of communication in regards to specific prob-lems, but we are completely satisfied with the explanations we have got from each other and we have accepted each other's point of view," he

SKIING: AUSTRIAN UPSTAGES HIS HERO BY BEATING THE LOCAL FAVOURITE IN WORLD CUP

Raich rattles off second surprise success



BENJAMIN RAICH, of Austria, upstaged Hermann Maier, his teammate and idol, in front of his hometown fans to win the World Cup men's giant slalom race in Flachau, Austria vesterday. It was his second victory in

four days. Raich, who won his first World Cup event at Schladming on Thursday, finished 0.05sec ahead of Michael von Grunigen, of Switzerland, in a time of 2min 27.02sec. Maier, the overall World Cup leader, finished in third place, 0.41sec behind Raich.

His surprise triumph in Schladming came after he was 23rd after the first run and yesterday Raich again pro-duced a superb second run after being third at the conclusion of the first leg. He overhauled both Von-Grunigen and Hans Knauss, of Austria, who slipped to fifth position, to achieve his

"I wasn't aiming to beat Hermann Maier in his home town," Raich, who is 20, said. "I just want to win every By Our Sports Staff

time I ski. When I train, I try to study everything that Maier does, so it is great to beat him."

Poor conditions forced organizers to call off the women's World Cup giant slalom race, which had been scheduled for Saturday. The Bavarian resort of Berchstesgaden was hit on Friday night with a fresh layer of snow, making it impossible to stage the race.

World Cup results _

With the snowboarding world championships due to begin on the Goetschen piste today, the organisers felt that there was not enough time to hold the race and prepare for the next event. A decision will be made today whether to reschedule the race at another loca-

Alexandra Meissnitzer, of Austria,

holds a commanding lead in the over-all World Cup standings. Meissnitzer, who has 980 points, leads Martina Ertl, of Germany, by 312 points and Hilde Gerg, also of Germany, by 360

The women head to Austria where they will stage a downhill race, a super-giant slalom and a slalom.

Kazuyoshi Funaki, Japan's Olympic champion, landed the two best jumps of the day yesterday to claim his first World Cup ski jumping victory of the season in Engelberg, Switzerland.

Funaki, the gold medal-winner on the 120-metre hill in Nagano and the defending World Cup champion, soared 129.5 metres on his opening effort. He then improved slightly on his second jump, sailing 130 metres to finish with a winning score of 273.1 points.

Andreas Widhoeld, of Austria, who was the Olympic bronze medal-winner on the small hill, was second with 262.8 points, followed by Noriaki Kasai, of Japan, in third position with 251.1 points.



nit

Winning spirit is food for County's thoughts



DERBY COUNTY

by Peter Robinson

IT WAS, perhaps, the most bizarre thing seen on a television screen in recent times, the sight of a Spanish woman undergoing surgery without the need of anaesthetic. It was gruesome, yes, probably pointple would much prefer to sleep through the whole ordeal, but most of all it was impressive. Anything, it seems, is possible if you want it, or want to do it, badly enough.

Ascetic Indian men can lie on beds of nails or walk over burning coals without incurring physical injury. Smokers can give up the evil weed. Men and women, young and old, fat and thin, able-bodied or not, can complete marathons. triathions and worse. Vinnie Jones can, and indeed did. dream of and enjoy a career at the highest level of football, even winning international caps. Anything, absolutely an-ything, is possible.

That last example is apposite, of course. Jones embodied the spirit of Wimbledon Football Club better than anyone — the rough edges, the rebellious-ness, the refusal to be intimidated by anybody or any situation - and, although he has long since left, to pursue an even more improbable career in films, the spirit remains.

Wilipower won this match on Saturday, not skill, not luck, not tactics, not fitness. Derby County were superior in almost every way, every po-sition, they dominated from start to finish — but they never looked like winning. Every time the ball ran

loose, a Wimbledon player sprinted at it, oblivious to the whereabouts of friend or foe alike; every time a Derby striker bore down on goal - which happened rather a lot - a blue shirt materialised in front of him, blocked his path and then seemed to vanish again. There was no masterolan, no strategic design, just clearance after tackle after header after save. No wonder Derby looked a bit bemused as they walked off at the end.

They were a goal down after just seven minutes, punished for some rotten defending. Roberts tried to find Euell in-

Venables bemused. Results and tables... Lynne Truss..

side the penalty area, but scuffed his chip; never mind, a weak clearance gave him the chance to try again, so he rolled his pass in the same di-rection, where Euell was still waiting, and he tucked his shot into the corner. Defenders stood and watched, which was nice of them, if negligent.

Roused, Derby poured forward in search of an equaliser. only to be denied by every type of last-gasp intervention that you can imagine. They had to wait for the 75th minute for their equaliser, which came when Wanchope finally es-caped his marker for a moment to head in a deep free

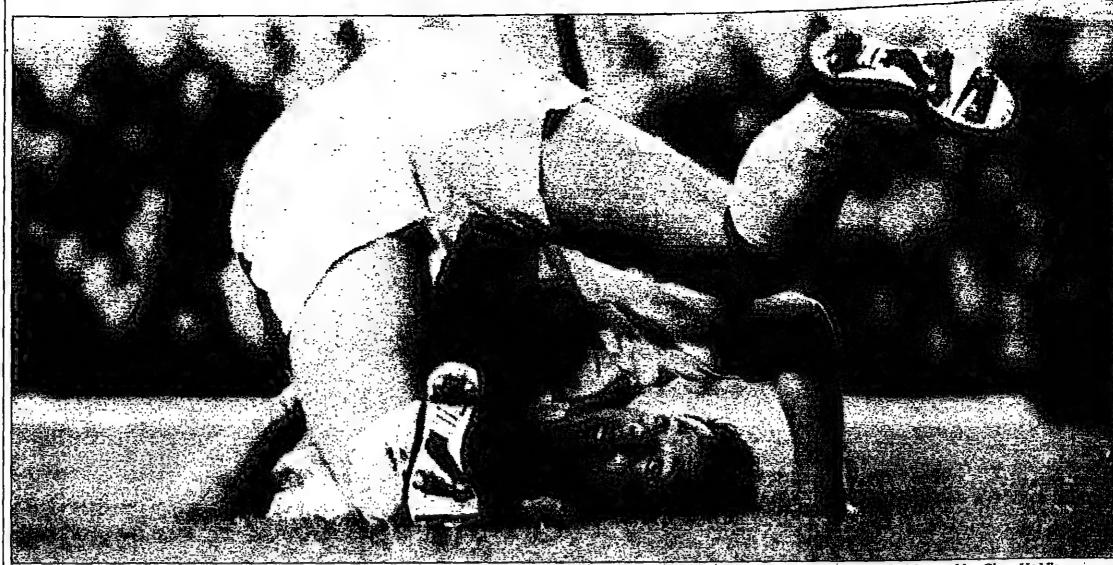
kick by Dorigo. Visibly irritated, Wimble-don quickly scored again, Roberts driving home from ten yards after being set up by Ekoku and Leaburn, and the pattern resumed. Perry could have been sent off for bringing down Burron as the substitute threatened to break away, but the Derby protests were pretty half-hearted and he was merely hooked, a fair decision (the collision looked unintentional), if not quite the right one.

Still, everything went Wim-bledon's way on Saturday, even if they were forced to field a weakened team owing to iniuries and what have you. It promises to be even worse away to Tottenham Hotspur next week, with Ekoku and Gayle on international duty, Cort and Euell suspended, to name but four certain nonstarters, but that kind of adversity appears only to make them try even harder. They thrive on it. It is simply a maiter of willpower.

WINDS EDON (4-4-2) N Sultran — B Thatcher, C Peny, D Blackwell A Kimble — C Hughes (sub E Blobu, 19mm), A Rob-erts, J Eusli, M Hughes (sub M Kernedy 37) — M Gaylo, C Cort (sub C Loaburn,

DERBY COUNTY (3-5-2) M Poom — S Prior, H Carbonan, S Elliott (sub. K Harper, 85) — J Laursen, L Carbley, S Eramo (9:16) L Schoten 66), D Powell (sub. D Burno 85), A Dongo — P Wanchope, D Surmitge

FA Carling Premiership: Eagerly anticipated Highbury soufflé fails to rise



Fowler, Liverpool's England forward, has an unusual view of the world after taking a heavy tumble at Highbury, where his indifferent form must have disturbed the watching Glenn Hoddle

Liverpool display new defensive resilience

ty, however, and maybe he was right. He had opted to smother Highbury with a thick defensive of Serie A assuredness and the fact that Liverpool had to defend in such numbers would suggest that the men charged with the task still need

searching for a way out. Liverpool, That there has been drastic im-provement under Houllier is not unbeaten in five games, are edging back into European Cup equation. open to debate, though. Reinventing Yet things have come to a pretty himself as a Gallic George Graham pass when, given the opportunity to since the ending of his doomed partlaunch a jate counter-attack. Patrik Berger opted instead to dispatch the nership with Roy Evans, the Frenchball towards the furthest corner man has proved to be a firm wielder flag. It was an act of negativity that of the whip at the training ground, from which mobile phones have brought a snort of derision from Patrick Vieira and Arsène Wenger, been banned and communication, the Arsenal manager, could not recertainly among the defenders, apsist a playful jibe to Houllier that, pears to have benefited. There is a regiven his nine-man defence, he must silience and a tactical organisation that was so hopelessly absent under be Italian rather than French. Houllier has some way to go bethe previous regime.

We are cutting off the Spice Boys fore he produces a back line that is

reputation," Houllier said, bursting with pride. This performance would not have been possible two months ago, even one month, but they have proved that we have mental toughness and a more professional approach to defendng. Why? Because it

is their lives. We had strength and solidity when we lost the ball and that is what we have been trying to get for two months. No team can do well when they are shaky and have schoolboy mistakes." Houllier will know that not los-

ing, especially against a blunt Arse-

LIVERPOOL

problem that is by Matt Dickinson Robbie Fowler. The England striker's goalscoring record merits better treatment than playing the shire horse to Michael Owen's racing thoroughbred, but, with the boy wonder so much the focus for Liver-

condemned to act as the labouring sidekick. It is clearly affecting his form and Fowler's lack of confinal team badly lacking the invention of Dennis dence must have been noticed by the watching Glenn Hoddle, Then again, if the England coach's main reason for attending was to gauge only the start. They have to balance that, particularly at home, how his England team might perwith dominating form against France next month, he matches and, to may be having second thoughts do that, he needs about playing the match at all. to address the

When two of England's leading midfield players can be made to look so pedestrian, there are reasons for everybody to be alarmed, but that was exactly what happened to Ince and Redknapp, Emmanuel Petit, in particular, was masterful and he will be relishing the chance to strut around Wembley with Ince in

ly longer to warm up, but then he cannot even make the France lineup at present.

erpool's midfield three provided no contest for the Arsenal pair, whose efficiency, both with and without the ball, is peerless. As long as they re-main fit and disciplined, their team will remain championship conten ers. They even managed to shrug off the provocation of Ince's elbow catching Petit in the face after 48 minutes

Arsenal's problem - to no one's surprise - was penetration, with Anelka and Overmars both short of full form and fitness. "We needed that first goal to change the match, " Wenger said. "Liverpool came to defend, but we have to show the

strength to overcome that." Instead, all that Gallic influence produced a suet pudding of a match - and it was very much to Houllier's taste.

Ewood Park raises a glass to the Rovers' return



THESE are confusing times indeed for those of a red persuasion on Mer-

seyside after a performance that was as heartening as it was deflat-ing, as full of defensive vigour as it

was devoid of attacking adventure.

They could not have known whether

to sing or grumble on their way

Gérard Houllier, their beaming

manager, looked ready to start a par-

blanket and it worked so well that

Anelka and Boa Morte must still be

back to Liverpool?

Sherwood: added to

EWOOD PARK regulars in-sisted that there had not been such a sustained din since Shearer and Sutton shot Blackburn Rovers to the title, and the echoes could yet be heard far beyond the confines of Biackburn. Adversity can destroy teams more easily than it can inspire them and. by their response on Saturday, it was clear that supporters had reaffirmed their passion for a side that had rediscovered its soul.

For the 22 minutes that they competed on level terms. Blackburn Rovers and Leeds United had served up some standard FA Carling Premiership fayre: excessive caution, unlimited energy and occasional malice, subjugating skill and numbing invention. Then Blackburn scored and, almost immediately, had a man sent off. It is arguable

which was worse for Leeds. Before half-time, the slege of John Filan's goal had been laid and, after that, it was like a re-enactment of Rorke's Drift. Blackburn's four penalty-area sentries stood tall and mmoveable while, in front of them, a line of five foot-soldiers threw themselves at the advancing Leeds hordes, And all the while, animated to the point of self-combustion, Brian Kidd, the Blackburn manager, was patrolling the touchline and beliowing his orders: "Reload, aim, tackle!"

It is hard to argue that, even on this occasion, the good guys won. Blackburn created their own problems when Tim Sherwood, the captain. was dismissed for the second time this season, a yellow card for an off-the-ball skirmish with Lee Bowyer being fol-lowed by another for a foul on



ROVERS

LEEDS UNITED by Kelth Pike

the same player. He could have no argument with the first booking and, while the second might have been harsh, Sherwood should not have given the referee the opportunity that he grasped with obvious relish.

Their subsequent rearguard action, though, was little short of beroic. Encouraged by a crowd that recog-

nised the effort needed to contain a team as good as Leeds, Blackburn eventually gave up any pretence of attack and, for all that Leeds pounded them to the brink of submission. they never pushed them over the edge. Filan, the ball seldom less than 30 yards from his goal, had just one moment of real alarm and when Has-selbaink's awkward header bounced towards the bottom corner of his net six minutes

from time, he plunged athleti-

cally to his left to claw the dan-

ger away.
Rovers' wretched disciplinary record is something that Kidd cannot shirk from addressing. They had II players dismissed in 14 months under his predecessor. Roy Hodgson - significantly failing to win on each occasion - and their squad does not possess the strength in depth that allows them to make light of suspensions. But this was a moment to accentuate the posttives, and there were plenty of Kidd chose not to single out

individuals, although the contributions of Ward - on his debut - and Wilcox, in unfamiliar defensive roles, and the composure of Broomes, just 2L at the heart of defence were highly impressive. Nor would he dwell on a sequence that now reads played seven, won four, drawn three, thanks to Keith Gillespie's ugly toepoke past Martyn — at fault with a sloppy initial clearance

- and two Leeds defenders. "I can't be bothered with records and runs," Kidd insisted. "I can only do my best and hope that it's good enough." He did elaborate on the "one for all" ethic, however, brought with him from Old things in the Premiership, it has to be as a team, not as individuals," he said. "I have just come from a club where it was the same, where there were supposedly super stars. But there were no egoes there. It is the same here.

Trafford. "If you want to win

The desire, hunger and afta bition has got to come from within. What I can do is remind the players that they're in a cracking job and that they should be grateful. The crowd. too, has been nothing but supportive, but I've got to earn their respect." He could hardly have made a better start.

Ty TRAVE MAIGE & DETRET STATT.

JINEMA, S Henchoz, M Broomes, C Davidson — K Gillespie, T Sherwood, W McKinday, J Wilcox — A Ward, D Duff, Sub: D Durn, 24mm)

LEEDS LIMETED (44-2): N Martyn — G Halle, D Wethered, J Woodpate (sub: A Smith, 46), D Granville — A I Hadland, L Bowyer, D Hopkan, B Robeio (sub: S McHed, 73) — J F Hasselbaink, H Kewell, Reference, H Haris.

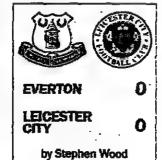
Expectations add pressure to O'Neill's colourless task

THERE was a theme running through the feelings expressed by many Everton fans before their team's meeting with Leicester City on Saturday. Martin O'Neill, the visiting manager, had come perilously close to accepting the manager's job at Goodison Park last summer: that he did not, they said, was because he could not handle the pressure of work-

ing for such a big club. O'Neill's take on the situation became clear a couple of hours later. Although he never said as much, managing an aspiring-yet-unfashionable club was just as stressful: a no-win

situation, in fact. He could not tear himself away from the press lounge before he had hammered home his incredulity. "I received this letter from a supporter a couple of weeks ago." he said. "He has been a fan for 32 years and he was telling me that, since winning the Coca-Cola Cup in 1997, we had done nothing. What has he been watching for 30 years? It might seem nice and comfortable at Leicester, but people expect too

much from us now." Leicester will never be considered a big club. O'Neill knows that more than anyone.



and dreams every time he is connected with another vacancy. Instead. O'Neill's task at Leicester is to keep their status in the FA Carling Premiership, something that is becoming increasingly difficult.

The amount of money in the Premiership means that the better players are tending to gravitate to the biggest clubs more and more." O'Neill said. That gives us a problem because we've got some fantastic players, players that other

clubs are always looking at, "We've got to keep them if we're going to have any more success, but we've got to have some success soon if we're 20ing to keep them. Heskey. Izzen, Lennon. Elliott - they

The goalless draw was Everton's seventh from 11 home games this season and their total of three goals scored at Goodison Park has become the club's worst form at home

in 121 years. More worryingly, the dross is taking its toll on the players' minds and bodies. Michael Ball, a colleague of Heskey in the England Under-21 squad, is a talented wing back in need of a rest. Having played nonstop for more than a year, Ball is looking laboured and ineffective. "It has got to me a little bit." he said.

Foreign leagues would never countenance such treatment of their young stars, but, per-haps, foreign football is still more attractive than the celebrated English game. There was no evidence to the contrary on Saturday. Thomas Myhre, the Everton goalkeeper, and Kasey Keller, his counterpart at Leicester, each produced two excellent saves to ensure stalemate once again, The rest was embarrassing.

EVERTON (3-5-2) T Mytre — R Dunne, C We'son, D Unsworth — A Cleand J Octar O Hachson, O Oscourt M Bas — I Ballay-ton. D Cadamarten (sub N Bermby, Tenir) Leccester City (4-4-2) K Ketor — F Sn. car M Esca, S Wash R Mathons — A Pro-pey, M Izzet, N Lennor S Geopy — A Col-fe, E Hosky

Toothless Charlton need bite

W. IT IS painful. Watching Charlton Athletic is like having to visit the dentist every week to be told that everything possible is being done, the denrist is well-qualified, but, for some curious reason, he cannot remove the tooth. "Just yank it out," you scream, but the dentist gently tugs and wiggles it and nothing happens. Alan Curbishley's side dis-

play the full range of tugs and wiggles. As a consequence. their football is attractive and studied and gives them the aura of the perfect underdog. They lose all the time - the defeat on Saturday was their ninth in a row in all competitions — but contribute sufficient guile to make the

neutral sympathise. Curbishley is amazed that their poor streak has not rendered them the obvious runt of the FA Carling Premiership lizter, but, for as long as Nottingham Forest drag themselves through the motions and Everton and Sheffield Wednesday. at least tease the bottom three that a collapse is imminent, all

is not lost. What Charlton need is either a new, top-class striker or the ability to replicate the five minutes of abrasiveness that preceded their equaliser against Southampton throughout entire games. Neither is a



by Alyson Rudd

simple task. As for the abrasiveness, it is something that cannot be taught. It is instinct. Southampton took the lead in near-comical fashion, with Hassan Kachloul dancing through the gaps in the intertwined limbs of the prostrate Charlton defence to deceive Sasa llic, the goalkeeper, with

ease. Angered, Curbishley's men stormed forward and their. sustained bout of serious pressure was rewarded. Danny Mills outpaced Patrick Colleter on the right flank and then brushed the Frenchman aside to deliver a decent ball into the area. Southampton flapped, cleared but never well enough and the ball fell kirully for Redfearn, whose shot bounced off the line. Still Charlton snarled and, finally, Kinsella's cross was headed in

by Andy Hunt. But that was it and the bite then left Charlton. Mills continued to outpace Colleter, but he never capitalised on it and, seven minutes into the second half, Colleter put the home side in front once. more with a speculative, relatively weak strike that fooled llic. The has been blamed for

most of Chariton's dropped points, but a goalkeeper's errors are all too obvious. Charlton's front pair were far more culpable yesterday, never, aside from the mad-dog hiaius, appearing comfortable. Only one point separates these two teams, but, for all

Southampton's defensive failings, they at least possess strikers with the ability to unnerve

Ilic not wholly to blame

the opposition. Curbishley planned to emulate David Jones's formation towards the end and play with three forwards, but an injury to Steve Jones resulted in a straight swap with Martin Pringle, on loan from Benfica, who was making his debut. Maybe when Clive Mendonca recovers from his thigh strain, he and the tall, keen Pringle can give Charlton the air of intimidation that is so badly lacking.

From Southampton's view? point this match represented more than just three points. It gave them back some dignity after Charlton outclassed them to the tune of 5-0 at The Valley in August. David Jones never gloats and maintains the demeanour of a man who has just lost a winning lottery ticket, regardless of his team's result, but on Saturday he stood a little taller and sounded tougher. He has a springboard, an opportunity to march out of the relegation swampland and into greener pastures. Chariton, for now. are left waist-high in mud. ATE - IET WAIST-TIIGH IN HOU.

flapping at the mosquitoes.

SOUTHAMFTON (4-5-1-2) P Jones — J
Oodd, K Monkou, C Lundrisuem, P Collets
— C Pairner, M Calegy, H Kachtoul — T
Hupnes — J Beatile, E Obsentiate — T
CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-4-2): S lic — D
Miss R Parkus, E Younds, C Powell — S Newlon, M Krissels, N Radiesam, J Robinson —
A Hun, S Jones (sadt: M Pringle, 72mm)
Resterage G Poli

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FA Carling Premiership: West Ham suffer one of their darker days in four-goal mauling

United display power surge



rutes before the game was due to kick off at Old Trafford yesterday afternoon. When it was floodlights shone as brightly as ever but Manchester United performed only in flickers. It says much for the poverty of the play of West Ham United that they still looked like rabbits paralysed by the glare.
The level of United's domi-

mance was almost embarrassing, particularly as they were far from their fluent best. West m, who could have gone sixth in the FA Carling Premiership if they had won, offered so little going forward that the eminence of their position almost beggars belief. United just picked them off with four of their hatful of chances.

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, had to give his darkness and he said later: "I think the players enjoyed it because it meant they could go

The 4-1 victory, courtesy of two routine strikes from Andy Cole, a neat finish from Dwight Yorke and a late header from Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, pok United above Arsenal into-saird place in the table, two points behind Cheisea and Aston Villa. It will take a better team than West Ham, though, to test their mettle as the championship race heats up.

It was easy to forget yesterday that Ferguson had sent Peter Schmeichel and Paul Scholes, two of his leading players, on holiday, not caring that they would be absent against Harry Redknapp's team. Schmeichel went to Barbados, Scholes to the Lake District and David Beckham was kept on the bench. Not that it really mattered: their teammates still managed to look as a shough they were enjoying a

winter break of their own. if there was a bright spot for



High-powered: Yorke takes a celebratory leap after his cool finish had given United an early lead at Old Trafford. Photograph by Marc Aspland

West Ham, it came in the Premiership debut of Joe Cole, their 17-year-old midfield player, who has long been tipped to be one of the great players of the future. Cole played for the entire second half and had a hand in Frank Lampard's consolation goal two minutes from the end. By then, howev-er, his team had been humiliated by United's slicker passing

and clever finishing.

A power failure had deprived the entire ground of electricity, but it took only II minutes of the match for United to take the lead. Hislop had already saved smartly from Andy Cole and watched helplessly as Giggs curled a shot just wide when Cole fed a sharp pass out to Yorke mid-

way inside the box. Yorke sent his shot fizzing across Hislop and into the corner of the goal.

From then, the result was never in doubt. With lan Wright and Paul Kitson absent through injury. West Ham had John Hartson and Trevor Sinclair in attack and they were overwhelmed by the presence of Jaap Stam, who seems to improve with every game, and Herming Berg. From that point, it was merely a case of the size of United's margin of victory.

Cole should have increased United's lead in the fourteenth minute, when Blomqvist's cross reached him inside the six-yard box, but he took an age to control the ball and, by the time that he mustered a

shot, Hislop had managed to get close enough to smother it. In fact, it was a surprise that it took United until five minutes before half-time to double their lead. Blomqvist was again the instigator, passing square to Butt. His shot bounced over Hislop's dive and, when it cannoned off the post, it fell kindly to Cole, who

Berkovic missed West Ham's first chance, five minutes after the interval, when he headed a cross from Lazaridis wide, and the visitors should have gone further behind a few minutes later when Cole hooked the ball over from close range after Irwin's shot had been partied by Hislop. Irwin himself went close

lashed it into an empty net.

midway through the half, heading another rebound away for one last time ten minfrom Hislop's gloves just wide. The third goal, though, was worth the wait. Irwin won a

challenge with Pearce midway inside the West Ham half and fed Yorke. He twisted and turned past two challenges before playing a beautifully weighted reverse pass into the path of Cole, who, once more, had time aplenty to steady himself before rolling his shot past Hislop and into the corner.

United's supporters began to amuse themselves by comparing West Ham to Manchester City in song and airing their grievances about Glenn Hoddle's treatment of United players at England get-togethers. Their attention was prised

utes from the end. Giggs's attempt to lob Hislop was saved, but Solskjaer headed the ball back towards goal. Rio Ferdinand made a desperate attempt to hook the ball clear but could only hack the ball on to the underside of the

bar and into the net. Lampard's late goal rescued a little dignity, but it was aca-demic. If the flickering turns into full power, United will be hard to stop.

MANICHESTER LWITEO (4-4-2), R van der Gouw — W Brown (sub: R Johnsen, 77mm), H Berg, J Stam, D Inwn — R Gagus, R Keane J. Cruyt, 83), N Butl (sub; O G Solst-per, 77), J Biomoprist — D Yorke, A Cole. WEST HAM UNITED (3-5-2): S Histop — S Ports, R Ferdinand, N Ruddock — I Pearca E Berlovic, S Lomes, F Lampard, S

Vialli gives Gullit cause for the blues

ONE was given a sheep's heart, another a zimmer frame, another a copy of Mein Kampf. They were meant as jokey Christmas presents from one Newcastle United player to another, but, as they left the pitch at St James' Park to the jeers of their disillusioned supporters, the gifts had become savage symbols of a tottering team struggling

to play with passion.

Some of the catcalls, the yells that the players should have their wages docked after a lacklustre second-half performance, were typical excesses of a football crowd frustrated by another apparent demonstration of the fact that they are slipping further and further away from capturing the honours that were once with-

in touching distance. Newcastle are thirteenth in the FA Carling Premiership now. They have lost each of their past three league games and their supporters are still racked by doubts about the commitment to the dub of their manager, Ruud Gullit, after his failure to buy a home in the area and his preference for commuting from Amster-

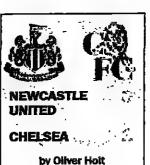
Part of the problem on Saturday, of course, was that Newcastie were facing a Chelsea side that is increasingly revealing the depths of its talent. In the past, Cheisea would have buckled under the assault the Geordies subjected them to in the first half an hour. They are not the southero softies of legend any more, though. This Chelsea stood firm, even on a bitter January day so cold that it might have frozen the wings of the Angel of the North.

Once the new league leaders had gone ahead six min-utes before half-time, they killed the game off ruthlessly. They did not waste possession, they kept it. They played the ball into the corners, they probed until Newcastle were exhausted and unable to exert any more pressure. And, when they had broken their hosts, they moved in to finish

If Dennis Wise had not stubbed his toe on the turf when Dan Petrescu put him through in the 73rd minute, if Roberto di Matteo had not shot straight at Shay Given 15 minutes earlier, after another pass from Petrescu, the result would have reflected Chelsea's superior incisiveness and emphasised Newcastle's lack of guile.

There were a few encouraging signs for Gullit Didier his new signing. looked impressively confident and composed on his debut at left wing back and Dietmar Hamann twice brought outstanding saves out of Ed de Goey with stinging free kicks that the Dutch goalkeeper did well to parry. Even when De Goey was beaten in the fifth minute. Leboeuf blocked Andersson's close-range shot on the line with his stomach.

Yet any hints of optimism were tempered by assertions from Hamann yesterday that the dressing-room was hopelessly split that the foreign



players questioned the com mitment of their English colgrieved by Gullit's long absences from the training pitch. Once more, the aloof style that Gullit adopted at Stamford Bridge is causing friction.

At Chelsea, in contrast, the problems that had threatened to engulf Gullit in his final days - problems of team mo-rale and tactics that had seen his side win only two of their last eight games under his control - appeared to have receded quickly under Vialli.

In Newcastle, they were the very epitomy of concentration and determination, more resolute than any Chelsea side has been for a long time. They Poyet and Tore Andre Flo, but Vialli ran himself into the ground for the cause on Saturday and his team appears to have learnt the habit of ab-

sorbing injuries.

Their winner came in the 39th minute after a poor ball from Hughes had led to a Cheisea throw-in deep in New castle territory. It was worked found Petrescu unmarked eight yards out. It was the sim-



Petrescu: simple winner

pliest of tasks to rifle it under the dive of Given.

"I hope I can cope with the pressure of having to play and manage." Vialli said. "I have to be on the ball. I have to be a better manager and player now than I have ever been be fore because now it is vital that I get it absolutely right. I think the players know that this is a difficult situation for me and they have to be even more responsible than be-

So far, they are living up to Vialli's expectations. Zimmer frames and sheep's hearts will not be figuring on their Christmas list this year.

mas list this year.

NewCastLe United (3-4-3). S Green —
L Chanel, S Howey, A Hughas — N Soland
(sub: R Lee, 74mm), D Hemann, G. Speed,
D Domi — A Andersson (sub: L Sehe, 57). A
Snearer, S Glass
CHELSEA (4-4-2): E de Goey — A Ferrer,
M Duberry, F Leboeul, G Le Saux — D
Petrescu, M Desally, R D Mateo, D Wise
— G Zola (sub: M Nicholis, 89), G Vigli
Referee: D Gallagher

Gascoigne desperately seeking fulfilment

mour does not encompass a sense of the ridiculous. For the benefit of the television cameras on Saturday, he gave a grouchy account of foreign players who have brought their unreliable ways to these shores and demeaned the illustrious traditions of English football. Gascoigne ought to have corpsed, abandoning himself to sughter over the preposterously solemn lines that he was reciting.

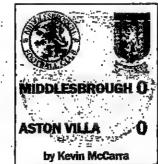
Between this grave demeanour and his riotous past, there is a strain so severe that it could snap open the Nim Andreas Fault like a handbag and let San Francisco tumble in Gascoigne, in mid-interview, might have wished for the ground to swallow him up, too, had he recalled previous indiscretions. All the same, it would be sad to see the Middlesbrough mid-

field player vanish. His dubious moralising about diffident overseas signings is really an expression of disappointment that so

PAUL GASCOIGNE'S delight in hu- few others share his own delirious love of the game. After a couple of poor performances, which ended in substitution, one saw 90 minutes of the besotted Cascoigne against Aston Villa. It did not always make for

comfortable viewing.
The stamina proved adequate, but there was a desperation in his pursuit of the action, as if he was chasing the glories of his youth. A tackle that was reckless, even if it did connect with the ball marginally before he caught Lee Hendrie with his arm, earned Gascoigne his tenth booking of the season, bringing him closer to a brush with the authorities over his disciplinary record.

It is another department of the Football Association from which Gascoigne wishes to hear. The prospects of a return to the England side was a more absorbing topic than Saturday's match, in which Middlesbrough forced the visiting team back, but only allowed Villa to display their well-ar-



moured back three, Once, Gascoigne would have pierced the chain mail. He cannot do so nowadays, bespring left in his legs to take him past opponents. Gascoigne knows it and so do the men who face him. On occasion, he passes a foot over the ball, as if threatening trickery, but the defenders never panic any more. They realise he will have to halt, pause and

Gascoigne's technique, though, is undamaged. Until arthritis takes hold, he will always be able to take an awkwardly dropping ball, as he did in one moment against Villa, and turn it into a perfect, volleyed 20-yard pass. Such mastery is precious and, with better players around him, international football might just suit him better than a grinding encounter in the FA Carling Premiership.

Villa could certainly have found a use for Gascoigne in midfield. Still lacking the injured Paul Merson, John Gregory's side were banal and inaccurate in their approach-work and an acceptable result had to be laboriously extracted from the afternoon by, in particular, two strong and dependable centre backs, Ugo Ehiogu and Gareth Southgate.

Middlesbrough, after three successive defeats, were insistent in their efforts and might have scored, after 38

minutes, when Michael Oakes, the Villa goalkeeper, pawed at a Curtis Fleming cross, leaving Dean Gordon to strike a drive that was blocked by Southgate. Otherwise, there were only unavailing deflections and competent saves. The division of the spoils gladdened the managers more

than the spectators.

There had been too much dull industry. "You can play well without scoring any goals." Julian Joachim stated in the match programme, while explaining his role. There is truth in his words, but what sort of game would we have if diligence completely expunged flair? The people at the Riverside Stadium on Saturday who made up a record attendance of 34.643 know the answer.

34,04-5 KINOW ERE ARSWET, MIDDLESBROUGH (3-5-2): M Schwerzer — G Festa, S Victors, G Patieter — C Flerring, N Maddison, P Gascangne, A Townsend, D Gordon — H Ricard (sub-M Beck, 83mm), B Deane.

ASTON WILLA (3-5-2): M Cakes — U Etnogu, G Southgee, G Benry — S Watson, R Schwerz (sub-S Grayson, 69), J Taylor, L Hendre, A Winght — J Josethm, D Dubbn Referee: U Renne.

Decoding the Di Canio letters

Dear Mr Wilson, I was hoping that you would again see fit to excuse my Paulo from games today. As you know, he has not quite been himself recently in fact, I've never seen the poor dear looking so low and I'm afraid that strenuous physical activity is quite out of the question. I realise that I have made this request a few times now and appreciate both your tolerance and Forgive my chutzpah, but I

n need bit

potted a small grammatical Giror in your last note to me. You wrote that you consider Paulo "a complete shirker"; I think what you meant to say was complete striker, but naturally my boy is concerned that either you or his team-mates on the school team might consider him idle. Only this afternoon, he got out of bed to tell me so.

Of course, we will gladly

comply with your demand to seek an independent medical assessment of Paulo's condition and, as a further display of our good faith, we would be happy to continue washing the team's dirty kiť – although erhaps not in public. if you understand my meaning. In the

George Caulkin reads between

the lines after Saturday's goalless draw between Sheffield Wednesday and Tottenham

small token of my esteem. And please let me know how Wednesday are faring. Yours etc. Mrs Di Canio.

Dear Mrs Di Canie. First off, can I just say how much the lads appreciated the side of Parma ham you sent us with your letter. I must admit. I was a bit dubious - I thought you where Paulo might like to fair, it was top-notch stuff.

were dropping a hint about play next season — but, to be. Having said that, some of the English boys weren t

overly keen (didn't go with

their beans, apparently), but I

told them to stop being such Pancy Dans. Honestly, I don't understand the modern player sometimes, although it's probably best I don't carry on with that particular subject; bit of a sore point, as I'm sure you're aware.

Saturday. We were up against a southern lot - you know the type — who were on a bit of run, but we absolutely battered them. .I've got to be happy with a dean sheet and a point, but, if I'm honest, we really

should have won. Dejan

Paulo has not been

himself recently.

Strenuous physical

activity is quite out

of the question'

Stefanovic fluffed a first-half

sitter and Paulo's mate. Beni

times before, where we've been commanding games and the chances have come along, but we've not been able to stick them in the net." Put simply, we miss Paulo. Badly. At the end of the day. Something has to give, Mrs D. I've lost count of the times Since you ask, we actually played quite well on Paulo has skipped training, of the matches he has missed. It might have cost us against Tottenham if Steffen Iversen's shot hadn't been blocked or if their big French lad, David Ginola, had won a penalty.

> only option. If nothing else. we need the shirt back. Yours in sport. Danny Wilson

We can't afford to be losing

games. Expulsion may be my

Carbone, had a shot deflected

That brings me to the nub

"We need somebody with the

ability to score goals. We've been in this position many

over the crossbar, you see.

of the matter. As I told the

magazine at the weekend:

chap from the school

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): P Smicek — P Atherton, E Thome, D Welker, A Hincholifle — N Alexandersson, W Jork, D Statemote, P Rudi — R Hum-phreys, B Carbone. TOTTEMHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2) I Welter — S Carr, L Young, S Campbell, A Sinton — D Anderson (sub: S Camence, 27min), A Natisen, S Freund, D G-nota (sub: J Edinburgh, 67) — S lerosa, L Ferdinand (sub: C Am-strong, 9)

Forest exposed by Huckerby formance: frank, to the point

and devoid of the transparent bull so frequently offered by his peers. "I can't turn this around," he said, "not with this bunch of players."

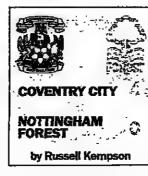
Micky Adams, thus, con-demned Nottingham Forest to a life of misery for the remainder of the FA Carling Premiership season. Relegation beckons, after 18 successive matches without a win, and he fired from the lip. Therein lies the rub. Adams

is only the caretaker manager. keeping warm what little is left of the Forest fire until the pic boys at the City Ground can find a successor to Dave Bassett. He can therefore call it as it is, without the need for excuses, cliches or chicanery.

It might not enhance his prospects of staying with Forest when Bassett's replacement arrives - and perhaps he senses already that the new broom will sweep clean — but Forest's plight appears to be terminal, so what the hell.

"Whoever takes over has got a real job on his hands," Adams said. "The players are as low as they're ever going to be and the air of uncertainty needs to be resolved quickly.

"And no, I don't want the job. I don't go touting for jobs that I know I have no chance of getting. I came to this club



to work under Dave Bassett and I was devastated when he left. When the new man arrives, I will sit down and talk to him. We'll take it from

Ron Atkinson, 60 in March, the "new" man, is expected to turn up sometime this week, when he can drag himself away from a holiday in Barbados. He will breeze into Nottingham — face a-beaming, teeth a-flashing, tan a-glowing
— and accept his short-term appointment amid much pomp and ceremony.

He possibly doesn't want the job, either, yet he can take it safe in the knowledge that Forest are probably doomed anyway and that none of the blame will be hurled in his direction when he guides them into the Nationwide League. And if he should by chance script the sequel to The Great

the state of the s

attractive bonus, enough to be able to purchase a small West Indies isle on which he could while away his closing years as the part-time boss of Coconut FC. Forest provides the perfect swansong for Big Ron: minimum pain, maximum gain, then back to the beach. All of which, at Highfield Road on Saturday, tended to overshadow a marvellous hat-

salary, he will also collect an

trick from Darren Huckerby. the Coventry City striker, who plundered a similar haul in the 7-0 FA Cup defeat of Macclestield Town the previous week. Enigmatic, inconsistent and often selfish he may be, but when he locks in on the target, he is a sight to behold. You could see the apprehen-

sion on the faces of the Forest defenders," Gary McAllister, the Coventry captain, said. "They were terrified of him." Gordon Strachan, the Coventry manager, concurred. There are only certain players in the world who can do things like Darren did," he

Huckerby had already struck an upright, after a raking run from the Coventry half, before again penetrating the Forest defence, one minute from half-time, when he drove in a fierce, low half-volley after Aloisi had flicked on Soltvedt's

time, his cute, angled chip evaded Beasant and bounced over the line via the far post. Telfer increased the lead

with a rasping volley and then Huckerby, born in Nottingham but of Notts County persuasion, administered the coup de grâce, gaining possession in the centre circle and brushing aside the limp attentions of Doig, Chettle and Hjeide before carressing his shot past Beasant. Poetry in motion. Had it stemmed from the feet of Michael Owen or Ronaldo, the world would have sat back and gasped.

Forest were wretched, though. Adams, who once played for Coventry, stood helplessly on the touchline as Atkinson, who once managed Coventry, lounged serenely under the palm trees. "Ron is the only man for the job," Bryan Richardson, the Coveniry chairman, said. "He has a presence. He brought everyone alive when he came here." Whether Big Ron can raise the dead is another matter.

COVENTRY CITY (4-2): M Hadman — R Nésson, R Shaw, P Williams, D Burrows, (a.b. 5 Shaton, 72mm) — P Tellor, G Medister (sub: 5 Cann.) 80; T E Solvedt, N Whelan — J Aloisi (sub: D Jackson, 67), D

Whelen — J Aloisi (sub. D Jacobs, v.), — Hucherby

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (3-5-2): D Beasar — JO Helde, S Chette, C Doig — D Lytte, A Johnson, S Germall (sub: N Quashe, 63), C Bent-Williams (sub: N Woan, 71), C Amistrong (sub: D Freedman, 56) — § Stone, P van Hooldonk,

Gascoigne taking tablets to fight off depression

By GEORGE CAULKIN

PAUL GASCOIGNE'S journey from despair to the verge of an international recall has encompassed more than the cutting out alcohol. The rehabrough midfield player is being eased by a course of antidepressants, the player revealed yesterday.

"I'm trying to enjoy my football as much as I can. I'm on these tablets which don't make me excited and don't get me down, but sometimes they do affect me in certain games, I hope people will appreciate that," Gascoigne, 31, told Sky

"I need to be on them," he said, "Some games I'm not up for it, but as long as I can give it 110 per cent, I'll be honest with the gaffer. If I'm not feeling too good. I won't play be-cause I don't want to let the

Paul Alcock, the referee who was pushed to the ground by Paulo Di Canio, the Sheffield Wednesday striker, in September, expects to be back in action in the FA Carling Premier-ship by the end of this month. Alcock, whose existing back complaint was exacerbated by the Italian's shove, will have a scan today after four weeks of rest and is hopeful he will re-

ceive the all clear. Geoff Thompson, the acting chairman of the Football Association, pledged yesterday to rebuild bridges with Uefa, football's European governing hody. He admitted that relations were damaged last year when the FA changed its vote in the election for the new Fifa chairman, backing Sepp Blat-ter instead of Lennart Johans-

son, the Uefa president.
Juninho, the Brazil midfield player, says that Aston Villa would be his "first choice" club if he decides to return to England from Atletico Madrid, Gianni Paladini, Juninho's agent, indicated has that the player would be willing to re-

duce his wage demands.
Oscar Garcia, the Barcelona striker, said yesterday that although he understood Chelsea were interested in signing him, he would prefer to stay with the Catalan club and

Festive break prompts an avalanche of goals in overseas leagues

Europe offers refresher course

ROB HUGHES



Overseas View

AT Old Trafford, the lights went out, probably through exhaustion, following England's habit of playing so many games either side of Christmas. In Italy, Spain, and even down in the Cape, there is evidence of the benefits of giving

a man a break.
The holiday refreshed goal-scorers in Serie A so much that Cagliari beat AS Roma 4-3. Parma won 6-3 away to Piacenza and, ominously for Manchester United, who face Internazionale in the quarter-finals of the European Cup In March. Ronaldo. Roberto Baggio and Ivan Zamorano were in joyous mood against Venezia.

Just a month ago, cynics were saying that it was all over for Ronaldo. Inter gave him time off in Rio. with instructions to prepare himself, body and soul, for United in the spring. Apparently, he cannot wait. After three minutes yesterday. Ronaldo scored a penalty. After 71 minutes, he scored from free play and, in between, he frolicked while Baggio struck once and Zamorano hit a hat-trick. Inter won 6-2 and the cares of the world dropped off Ronaldo's shoulders.

The 60,000 crowd in the San Siro believed that they were witnessing a revival. Parma followers felt the same as Abel Balbo, their veteran Argentina striker, also notched three goals in Parma's storming vic-tory. Roberto Muzzi, once of Roma, scored twice for Cagliari against his old team.

Alas for David Platt, his Sampdoria side did not catch the new year habit. Platt's first signing, Lee Sharpe, from Leeds United, was a secondhalf substitute, but Sampdoria

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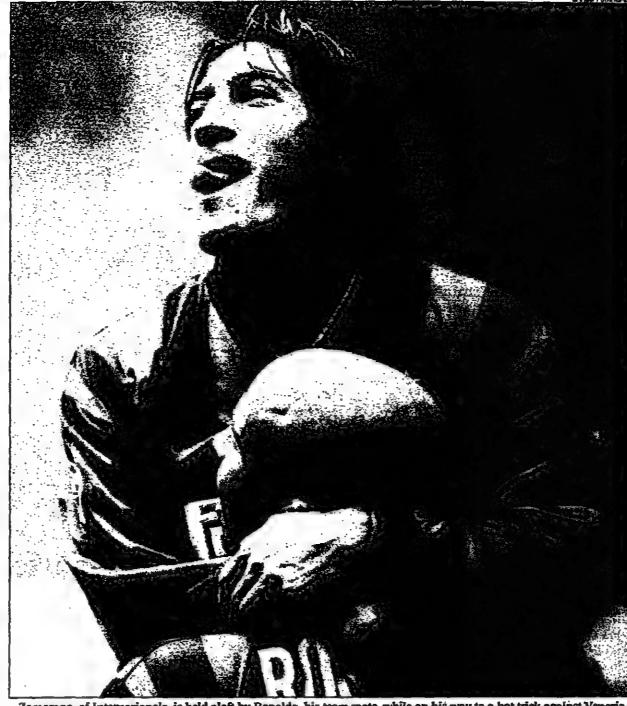
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Zamorano, of Internazionale, is held aloft by Ronaldo, his team-mate, while on his way to a hat-trick against Venezia

failed to capitalise on the fact that Bologna played virtually the entire second half with ten men and finished level at 1-1.

Juventus achieved the same score at home to Bari and AC Milan equalised with seven minutes to spare at Empoli, although Christian Ziege, Mi-lan's saviour, received his second yellow card of the game for his excessive celebrations.

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For Ken Bates - after a weekend in which he acknowledged that the Football Association is not ready to take him as its chairman — the good, good news is that Juventus does not want anyone from Starnford Bridge either. There had been speculation that Gianluca Vialli was the choice to replace Marcello Lippi as the coach this summer, but Umberto Agnelli, the Bates of Juventus, suggested that Carlo Ancelotti, the man who sold Gianfranco Zola to Chelsea

from Parma, will be the man. Coaches come and coaches Bruce Grobbelaar, the former Liverpool goalkeeper, who was cleared of match fixing two years ago, has begun his transition from entertainer to trainer. He begins work this week as the manager of Seven Stars, of South Africa's Premier Soccer League, and, hav-ing turned 40, Grobbelaar will retish being a free man in the country of his birth.

Not so free is Jesus Gil y Gil. president of Atlético Madrid, whose generosity with gifts, such as gold watches to players, was matched by a gargantuan appenie for con-

troversy. Now Gil, the mayor of Marbella, is in prison accused of embezzing £2 mil-tion from the Marbella town hall for Atletico.

"Everything is fine." Gil said, sareastically, "I'm re-land. I'm going to jail. This way, the lynching campaign

way, the tynching campaign against me is over. "While he suffers, his lawyer protests that others at Atletico did the deal, which put the Marbella name on Atletico shirts without Gil's knowledge. The club offered free entry to their Primera League game against Extremadura vesterday as a "Gil is innoyesterday as a "Gil is inno-cent" demonstration. Some fans went instead to the Spanish Football Association to daub slogans and smash win-dows and presidents of four ri-val clubs — Real Betts, Real Valladolid, Real Mallorca and Sevilla - were subpoctated to

give evidence before the judge.
There were smiles in Catalonia, where the Barcelona president. Josep Lluís Nuñez, sought his pound of flesh for Gil's latest outburst, insinuating that Barcelona "bought off" referees. Nunez is having off referees. Nuffex is having a ball because his team has scored ten goals in two league games, with Rivaldo scoring four of them.

So, Rivaido is happy, Ronaldo is happy, but one Brazilian player who is not happy and whose agent would rather he plays in England, is Juninho. His problem is not the president but the coach at Atletico, Arrigo Sacchi, and Juninho's agent says that the little Brazilian would like a return flight to England, not back to Middlesbrough, but to Aston Villa.

Meanwhile, one captive viewer - Gil - saw Real Madrid, his club's greatest rivals; succimb 2-1 on television in Mallorca. It was a wretched evening for Manuel Sanchis. whose own goal and later dis-missal allowed Mallorca to consolidate their position at the top of the table. It was a de-light for Dani — alias Daniel Carcia Lara — for whom Real Madrid paid Zaragoza El million and off-loaded without giving him one full match.

Beating Real Madrid was a big motivation for me," Dani said. "Mallorca is the best thing that has happened to me because Hector Cuper is a great coach, who recognises my abilities." One man's fulfil-ment is another's failure.

Hibernian gain from consistent displays of flying Finn

By PHIL GORDON

EVEN Mixu Paatelainers would nod in agreement that he is not worthy of lacing George Best drinks, never mind the great man's boots. However, the Finland striker is proving that he is far more

capable hangover cure. Best's flirtation with Hiber nian 19 years ago was a bittersweet cocktail of sellout crowds and relegation, but he failed to stick around when the Edinburgh club last em-braced the Scottish League first division in 1980. Instead. the world's most charismatic winger, who was flown up to Scotland every Friday night and paid an unheard of £1,000 a game, was off on an-other flight of fancy, leaving others to pick up the pieces.

Hibernian returned to the premier division then at the infirst attempt and, 19 years on 19 they seem certain to complete the task equally quickly. Paatelainen's ninth goal since his transfer from Wolverhampton Wanderers four months ago launched the 2-l success away to St Mirren on Saturday, stretching Hiber-nian's lead at the top to U

Unlike Best's day, there is no longer any margin for er-Scotland's top division: only the first division champions gain promotion. Hibernian -and Paatelainen - are ensuring that the margin is as wide

as possible. They dwarf the rest of the di vision, not just in finances (home crowds of more than 14.000 are ensuring that the harsh realities of life outside the Scottish Premier League are being kept at bay) but in tradition, though it is unlikely that the achievement of Alex McLeish's side in extending its unbeaten run to 18 games will be earn a large chapter in the history of a club that has been champion of Scotland four times and reached the semi-finals of the very first Eu-

ropean Cup in 1956.
Yet Paatelainen recognises
that such scale, even in the Lilliputian environment of the Scottish first division, carries problems. "Hibs are the team everyone wants to beat in this division," he said, reflecting on a success earned despite Steve Crawford being dismissed in the 43rd minute, to the delight of a hostile Love Street crowd.

"It was the same when was in the English first division with Bolton and Wolves. You become a target when you are with a bigger club but I would rather have this sort of pressure than be with a

struggling side."
The Finland sublime 51st-minute goal, finishing off a fine move with Russell Latapy, another recent acquisition, from FC Porto, by thrashing in a left-foot shot from 20 yards, was embellished by a late goal from Paul Hartley, the substitute, purchased before Christmas.

Paatelainen's debut for Hibernian came on the same ground in September, when St Mirren won 2-0, but, as the success on Saturday indicated, it is not just personnel that

has changed since then. There is more confidence now," he explained. "I think there was still a hangover from relegation, but this was an important result and could turn out to be one of the

The ambitions of Falkirk, in second place, receded when Derek Holmes's last-minute goal provided Raith Rovers with a precious 2-1 win, yet an even greater cost was being counted by the seven other home clubs forced to postpone lower-division fixtures because of frozen pitches. The Premier League's shutdown now appears to be very timely.

Ford ensures Mansfield stay on the right road riving at the far post, extended the lead at the second opportuto scoring, an optimistic volley

Mansfield Town Brentford.

BY RICHARD HOBSON

IF BRENTFORD arrived at Field Mill with a superiority complex, as Ron Noades, the manager, appeared to suggest afterwards, then they should have left with a less flattering self-assessment. Riding on the emotion of Tony Ford's record 824th league appearance. Mansfield Town proved to be superior in every aspect to record a fifth successive home

The first crowd beyond 4,000 this season helped to create a slightly surreal atmosphere at a ground that is badly in need of redevelopment. Mid-way through the first half. Kerr almost scored for Mansfield with a scorpion kick the skill demonstrated memorably by Rene Higuita, the Colombia goalkeeper, at Wembley a few years ago — while Ford, sprinting up and down the right flank like a colt rather than a 39-year-old veteran. was cheered even after being caught offside.

"It was a memorable day and the result made it even better." Ford, a creditable figure. said. The nearest that he came

from some 25 yards, soared well wide, but his influence was immense during an opening half-hour in which Mansfield endorsed their credentials for promotion from the Nation-

wide League third division. Importantly, they crowned this period of domination with goals. In the twelfth minute, Lormor took advantage of indecision by Hreidarsson to meet a long clearance by Bowling before chipping over Dearden. Three minutes later, Ford's low cross eluded the whole defence and Harper, ar-

Ford: sprinting like a young coit

nity. Brentford reduced the arrears when a dreadful mistake by Schofield a minute before half-time enabled Ownsu a free run, which he took full advantage of to score. Yet, despite the runs from de-lence of Hreidarsson, Mans-

field created the better chances in the second half and Christie, a substitute, duly scored a third goal near the end. "If you think a game is going to be easy and you give

less than 100 per cent, then you are going to struggle,"

Just a single point now sepa-rates three clubs — Brentford, Cambridge United and Mansfield - behind Cardiff City, the leaders, and Ford senses promotion for the fourth time in his career exactly 20 seasons after the first, at Grimsby Town. "Brentford have spent a lot of money on their team, so to play good football and beat them shows how we are coming on," he said.

MANSPIPLD TOWN (3-5-2): I Bowling — M Peters, J Scholield W Heckett — T Ford (asb. L Williams, Yofmin), D Kerr, J Walter, G Tallou, S Harper — L Peacock, T Lormor (sub I Christie 83) PREMITPORD (43-3) K Deatden — D Powel, R Curn. H Hredarsson, 1 Anderson Sate C Dather, 73 — M Rowlands, W Asprint, G Mahon — D Bryan Isute: L Portune-West, Sh L Owaru, A Scoti

Ford survive brace of red cards

Ford United Kidsgrove Athletic..

BY WALTER GAMMIE

A TRYING week for Dennis Ellion ended happily on Satur-day. It was his birthday and his Ford United side marked the occasion by beating last season's losing semi-finalists to reach the last 16 of the FA Carisberg Vasc at Rush Green

Ellion responded to the de-parture of Paul Downes, his assistant, and all but Steve Brice of his coaches by laying out the kit, pumping up foot-balls and then inspiring Ford to a tigerish performance Trains League champions.

Jeff Wood gave Ford a fly-ing start with a fine turn and shot, but Kidsgrove replied with panache, Scott Dundas equalising from the penalty spot and then sprinting clear to best Chapman, who, mo-ments earlier, had denied Batho with a magnificent onehanded paw of a save as the forward tried to chip him.

Ford roared back after halftime. Lord scored with a shot that went in of a defender's heel and added his second with a left-foot thump that bounced in all the underside of the par. Dundas struck a swerving 30-yard shot that hit the bar before Reilly forced home a flick-ou from a corner. to stretch Ford's lead.

Then their troubles begun. With 20 minutes to go, Lord man, spoke volumes of the

was sent off after an altercation with Dundas. Elliott reorganised. The goalmouth inci-dents intensified. Chapman once dropped the ball on his line and only undignified scrambling kept it out. Beck was then shown a

second yellow card and dismissed after a flare-up in the area. "It was mistaken identity." Ellion said. "The linesman got the wrong man." Mountford headed wide of an open goal and Batho, stand-ing at the far post, contrived a clearing header when all he needed was to let the ball run of him into the net.

.. The rour of triumph and the rattle of the metal cage from the last man down the namel. Charantan, the player-chair-

emotion generated by Ford's nine men holding on for their

The FA Cup run that took Ford to Presion North End left more than £10,000 in the bank towards the dream of laying an astrourf pitch. Swelling the coffers by reaching Wembley in the Vase is unlikely, Elliott admits. He has a small squad and it will be stretched making up the back-log of matches in pursuit of the Ryman League third division title.

FORD UNITED (3-4-3) J Chapman — L Fowler, T Bock, R Gardner — D Rolly, I Hughes (sub: 8 Walls, 72mm), Microf J De-varieur — M Wase (sub: S Mandey 70), J Wood, D Harding

KUDSCHOUP ATHLETIC (44.2): Shenter

D Chowyn, S Danes, W Mountand, P.
Evans — D Welks, C Lonall (sub: M Hub-chell, 53) S Dundes, P Kiely — D Hooby R
Bethrar S Zonte

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Nationwide League: Bolton underline their attacking potency with easy victory

Venables bemused by supine Palace

Bolton Wanderers. Crystal Palace.

consiste

BY STEPHEN WOOD

TERRY VENABLES, the Crystal Palace manager, stood motionless on the touchline for much of a tortuous afternoon at the Reebok Stadium yesterday, possibly wondering why he was there. Renowned for his tactical awareness, his players looked as disorganised

is a professional team could to, handing Bolton Wanderers an easy return to the playoff positions in the Nationwide League first division.

By contrast, Colin Todd, the Bolton manager, was an animated figure, always cajoling his charges, some times criticising them. Rarely does he appear to be a contented individual, even when his players are as superior as they were yesterday. There is no doubt that Bolton's strength remains their potency in attack. When they pin their mind to it, only Sunderland, the league leaders, can match their threat and, indeed, their goalscoring feats. Against Palace, the contest was over by the 23rd minute and distinctly uncompetitive by the

By then, Bolton were three goals to the good. Palace appeared to employ four at the back, with Hayden Mullins protecting them by virtue of his defensive role in midfield. Such a move may have underlined the respect in which Bolton's capabilities were held by Venables, but, not helped by the haphazard way in which it was carried out, the system was of precious little use.

Both clubs were relegated. rom the FA Carling Premiership last season and both managers have insisted that the are good enough to take them back up to the top light immediately. In Venables's case, that claim looks rather hollow and Palace's position of fourteenth today — Il points adrift of the play-off zone — flatters

They have won only twice on their travels this season and, to add to Venables's problems, there is the speculation over Matt Jansen, the talented young striker. Coveted by Premiership clubs, including Blackburn Rovers and lewcastle United, Jansen was

rumours that he was spending the day in Newcastle, getting acquainted with his future surroundings.

Venables said: "The lad came to see me and told me that, because of all the speculation surrounding him; he was not mentally tuned in to play. That disappointed me. He could be on the point of a move. Something could

happen this week."
Palace had to part with Paul Warhurst last week, sold to Botton for £800,000. They could have done with Warhurst yesterday and Venables added: "It was a

strange time to sell Paul, but that's life. Everyone's a bit low at the moment, but at least we showed some character and aggression to stem the flow of Bolton's attacks in the second half. We were so shocking in the first balf, it could have been far worse."

Bolton's quartet of players from Scandinavia were, as ever, central to that flow, Todd has insisted that they speak only English around the club. for fear of cliques appearing within the dressing room. Their understanding on the field is certainly undisputed, with Frandsen the most It was Frandsen, the Den-

mark international, who won a free kick after three minutes, from which Bob Taylor headed in a cross by Scott Sellars at the far post. Armar Gunnlaugsson, the Iceland international, then supplied Michael Johansen, another Dane, who sold dimmies to Crowe and Tuttle before placing his rightfoot shot past Kevin Miller, the Palace goalkeeper.

Ten minutes later, Frandsen played in Claus Jensen, the third Denmark player, and, despite calls for offside from the visiting team, he rounded, Miller and side-looted into the

empty net.
"Winning is a good habit."
Todd said. "We are earning the right to win games by the way we are playing and creating chances, but this clean sheet pleases me just as

BOLTON WANDENERS (4-4-2): J Jassiedsinen — N Cot, M Fish, P Werhurst, M Whitlow (sub: R Elliot, 82min) — M Johansen, C Jensen, P Frendiser, S Soliers (sub: R Gerdner, 76) — A Gurmiaugsson, B Taylor (sub: D Hotbsorth, 76).

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2): K Miler — Sun Jihel, S Buston, D Tottle, J Crows (sub: D Amsalam, 55) — C Foster, H Mullins, Fan Zhiyi, S Rodger (sub: N Rizzo, 74) — C Marthon (sub: M Bent, 57), L Brachony.



هكذامن الموصل

Wright, warming up before the game at Portman Road on Saturday, is one of several exciting young Ipswich Town players. Photograph: Rob Howarth

Ipswich ignore ghosts of past glories

day in Suffolk, even a bome defeat at Portman Road cannot dispel the warmth of lpswich Town. It wraps itself around you, convinces you that, even at a level below the multimillion-pound FA Carling Premiership, there is life and regeneration within professional football Ipswich, now, as once before, a place of Dutch imported bulbs and home grown youth, have had a quite extraordinary influence on the English game, out of all proportion to its size or

wealth. On Saturday, despite the surprise 1-0 home defeat to Grimsby Town, Ipswich. blooded a new Dutch wing-back, Fabian Wilnis, and blended him with Richard Logan and Titus Bramble — a pair of 17-year-olds who, like more than half the professional staff at the club, are prodticts of the youth system.
This is also the club that pro-

vided England with two managers, Sir Alf Ramsey and Bobby Robson, as well as two captains, in Terry Butcher and Mick Mills. If David Sheepshanks, the Ipswich chairman, is chosen to lead the Football Association this



Rob Hughes looks at a club banking on tradition, youth and loyalty to get back among the big boys be done in a more commercial

summer, it would surely bring to Suffolk and to Lancasway than in the past. ter Gate the final link in a chain that has had remarkable previous success. Ramsey guided England to World Cup glory in 1966 and Rob-son, who first came to Ipswich 30 years ago this week, took them to the semi-finals in 1990, the furthest England have progressed abroad.

Between them, these manage ers won for Ipswich almost everything that the English game provides and, under Robson the Uefa Cup as well They are the first to admit that these achievements would not have been possible without the trust, loyalty and perspec-tives instilled into Portman Road by the Cobbold family, brewers and racehorse own-

ers of the vicinity.

George Burley, a former Town player, is now at the helm and trying to recover the threads of former giories. He is attempting to manage the team to play the composed and imaginative football with which Ramsey won the first division title in 1962 and Rob-You can feel the presence of the past

Sheepshanks, like the Cobbolds, had an Eton education and, like them, found football compelling. He got his first taste of the sport at 12, when the gamekeeper on his father's farm requested permis-sion to take "the lad" to the game. "Two matches, and I was hooked," Sheepshanks said. He is 46, fully aware of the legacy be inherits at Port-man Road and just as aware that, with his background in marketing, things will have to

Indeed, as a recently co-opt-ed member of the Uefa marketing committee, Sheep-shanks is considering whether to stand for election as the FA chairman. He knows that the very essence of English authority has to be restored from top to bottom of the English game — and, most certainly, overseas.

xcitingly, Ipswich also possess players for England's future. Richard Wright is an under-21 regular and one of the few outstanding young goalkeepers that England has produced in recent years. On Saturday, he misjudged a punch and it was punished as Peter Handyside, the Grimsby defender, responded with with an overhead kick that beat him, but he has conceded just 17 goals in the first division this season.

Kieron Dyer, 20, has a fo-ture at the top of English football. Though slender, he is selsessed of the ball

and Ipswich have made him the fulcrum of their side in the way that Osvaldo Ardiles once was to Argentina and Tottenham Hotspur.
It was in the same season

that Ardiles and Ricky Villa were introduced to English football at Tottenham, that Robson brought the brilliant Dutch midfield pair of Arnold Muhren and Frans Thijssen to Town. Important as they were, undoubtedly opening insular English eyes to the craft of players on the Continent. Muhren and Thijssen were

only passing through.

There are people in the background at Ipswich, vital people, who have been there through all the triumphs. Pat Godbold retired last season after serving as secretary to every post-war manager that the club has had; retired, but not separated, for she has been appointed archivist.

"I think I got the job be-cause I'm the oldest one around," she said with a smile. It is fascinating to share her undying entitusi-

The Cobbolds were wonderful people to work for and so astnte that I laugh when peo-ple say they could not have coped with the new commercial age," she said. Ramsey and Robson treated her as a family member and Sheepshanks would not dream of allowing her to leave while she

remains so enthusiastic. Similarly, David Rose, club secretary for 40 years, holds the keys not only to the boardroom but also to the wisdom that, like the white wine so loved by the late John and Patrick Cobbold, is the essence of this uplifting club.

The wonderful thing about football is that it is a business which each May wipes the slate clean and we all can say we are going to win the FA Cup, the League, everything that's going. It's been a fantastic life are have had for more tic life, we have had far more fun here than failure. Today [Saturday] you saw our new youngsters and out of the window you can see the Ipswich Town Football Academy. They are our lifeblood and if it is to go on — to regenerate, to use the chairman's phrase - you have to bat long. It's a game for the youngsters and it's fun being around to direct them in the Ipswich way."

Oxford are denied by Phillips's heroics

Oxford United ... Bristol City

By PAT GIBSON

WHERE there is life, there is hope. Oxford United may be struggling to avoid relegation from the Nationwide League first division, they may even be close to extinction because of their crippling financial crisis, yet the old Manor Ground could hardly have been more

vibrant on Saturday.

An FA Cup fourth-round tie against Chelsea in a fortnight's time, bringing with it much-needed revenue, will not make much of a dent in debts said to be approaching £14 mil-lion, but the prospect drew a crowd of 9,434, the highest of

Many supporters stayed on after the game to claim their Cup tickets, undeterred by the failure to beat Bristol City. their fellow strugglers, whose influx of overseas players since the installation of Benny Lennartsson as director of coaching has not quite put them in Chelsea's class.

Not that Cheisea should take anything for granted. Even the experienced Lennartsson was startled by the way that Oxford set about his side in a kind of rough dia-mond formation that would have brought them three goals in the first 15 minutes but for some fine saves by Steve Phillips in the Bristol goal.

Bristol not only survived but went close to winning themselves, Torpey having one header tipped on to the bar and another cleared off the line. That would have been too much for Malcolm Shotton. the beleaguered Oxford manager, who complained: "It is just our luck at the moment to keep coming up against keepers playing out of their skins."

just relieved to have ended a run of seven successive away defeats. "I will be giving our goalkeeping coach | Mike Gib-son] a bottle," he said. "I'm not saying what will be in it, but it will be from Scotland."

As for Lennartsson, he was

WILL DE L'OTT SCULENTAIT.

ONFORD VINITED (5-13-1) P. Gerrard —
C. Perry, M. Warren, M. Watson, P. Gilchest, P. Powell — L. Robinson — N. Benger, M. Marphy, J. Beauchenge — D. Windess,
BRISTOR, CTIY (44-2) S. Phillips — J. Brunnen, M. Shall, R. Edwarde, M. Bell — B. Marray, I. Testmetanu, M. Hewlett (sub. A. Locke 79mm), S. Andersen — A. Akintiyi, S. Torpey.

Reid pinpoints Queens Park Rangers2 Sunderland vital factor BY NICK SZCZEPANIK IF AND when Sunderland

take their place in the FA Carling Premiership next season - and results on Saturday made "when" more likely than ever — Peter Reid, the manager, knows that he will have to strengthen his squad. He is equally aware that he cannot ford to do it at the expense of.

e team spirit, which enabled his side to come from behind and claim a deserved point, despite being reduced to ten men for the entire second half at Loftus Road

According to Reid, this spirit was born out of despair dur-ing a stop for a drink on the way back to the North East after defeat in the Nationwide League first division play-off fi-nal against Charlton Athletic last season. "It was crushing," he recalled, "but we got together and that was the catalyst.". Of course, spirit is insuffi-

for Sunderland cient by itself and it was as much Reid's tactical nous that determined the outcome on

Saturday, as Rangers threat-ened to become only the third team this season to beat his side in a league match. Reid had left out Michael Bridges to accommodate the return from injury of Kevin Phillips and the decision looked to have been a good one when Phillips volleyed Sunderland into the lead after 32 minutes. Yet when Danny Maddix headed an equaliser for Rangers and Kevin Bail, the Sunderland captain, was

dismissed for a late tackle just

before the interval, Reid's men

were up against it.

Rangers' second goal, Kevin Gallen finishing off good work from Kiwomya and Dowie from close range six minutes after half-time, might have demoralised lesser teams, but, in-

stead, Sunderland continued to push forward. With 17 minutes remaining and Rangers using their man advantage to soak up pressure. Reid reintroduced Bridges, who unnerved the home defence on several occasions before his stoppage-time cross found Niall Quinn at the far post to head the "He [Bridges] goes past players, something that in the mod-

em game gets defenders on the back foot," Reid said, ad-

mitting also that leaving Bridges out had been "a massive de-Gerry Francis, the Rangers

manager, noted that the forward riches available to Reid give him an advantage over most opponents, but he also found plenty to enthuse over in his own team's performance. "There's no doubt that Sunderland are by far the best side in the division," he said. "Two or three months ago, if we'd gone behind to a side like Sunderland, we'd have folded, but we matched them."

The result gives Sunderland a nine-point lead at the top of the first division in advance of the visit next Sunday of Inswich Town to the Stadium of week," Reid said, "but we'll be up for it." Sounds like team spirit. QUEENS PARK RANGERS (3-4-3): LM

CULEENS PARK RANGERS (3-4-3)* L Mis-loako — K Fisedy, S Morrow, O Maddidic — A Henole, M Rose, G Pescock, I Beraclough — C Nucurya, I Dovid, K Gallen, SUNDERLAND (4-4-2): T Sorgnsen — D Williams (sub* M Smith, 73min), A Melville, P Buder, C Madin — A Res, L Clark, K Bal, G McCarn (sub* M Bridges, 73min) — K Phil-los, N Culnn. Reteree: S Malhieson.

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Walsall in distinguished company

Gillingham.

A GLANCE at the top of the Nationwide League second division can provoke nostalgia and an assumption that pedigree will be rewarded by promotion. Yet while Walsall lacked the history of some of their rivals, a bright future awaits if they maintain the

spirit that has lifted them un-

expectedly to second place. Since taking charge of a learn that just avoided relegation to the third division last season. Ray Graydon, the Walsali manager, has found support throughout this small club as it battles against Fulham. Stoke City. Preston North End and Manchester City, among others. Everybody here is pulling the same way, from the physic to the lady that makes the tea. It's so important," Graydon said.

hody needs to be pulling together for a club to have last-The effects of factions pulling in opposite directions can

ing from years of infighting.

City are the next visitors to

"Matt Busby said that everybe seen seven places and 13 points below Walsall, where Manchester City are still reel-

Bescot Stadium 12 days from now and they will encounter a Walsall team with grit and determination but able to pass fluently on a bumpy home Walsall displayed all their

qualities in halting Gillingham's 17-match umbeaten league run, notably in a frantic final ten minutes, when the visitors were denied an equaliser by two double-saves from Walker, the home goalkeeper. He had been beaten by a fine 69th minute header from Patterson, but, by then, Walsall had already built a 20 lead through a tap-in by Rack and a header from Rammell. Waisall's ability to protect

the fact that all but three of their 15 league wins have been by one goal. If they reach the domestic game's second flight for only the fourth time this century, they could meet Wolverhampton Wanderers, Birmingham City and West Bromwich Albion, their bigger West Midland cousins - and perhaps show them the value of family spirit.

have produced is indicated by

Of EXTRILY SPITE.

WALSALL (4-4-2): J. Welker - W. Evens, I. Roper, A Viveasts, C. Merch - D. Rack, B. Le-russon, D. Keetes, P. Smipson - A. Welson (sub: W. Thomas, 78min), A Remmel.

GILLINGHAM (3-5-2): V. Bestram - B. Ashby, A. Pennock, G. Butters - N. Southell, A. Hessentieler (sub: J. Hoodge, 46); P. Smith, M. Gaffowsy (Sub: M. Saunciers, 64 mins), M. Patterson - R. Taylor, C. Asabe.

Reference E. Lomas.

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O CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	FA CARLING PREMIER		ACACADI INC
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SECOND DIVISION	Verdict: HT Home win. Ft: Away win; Livingston v East File (Pools Penol Verdict: HT Home win. FT: Home win; Partick v Allos (Pools Panel Verdict: HT Score drew. FT: Score draw); Stiffing v Queen of South (Pools Panel Verdict: HT Home win. FT: Home win.)	Nicky Rizzo, left, of Crystal Palace, tries to shrug off the challenge of Neil Cox, of Bolton, during his side's 3-0 defeat	23 Maccioelid 25 2 4 5 9 12 2 5 7 10 19 21 (19 24 Uncoin City 25 4 2 6 16 19 1 8 9 9 23 20 25)
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- John Jewis -



BBC hit the bull's eye with two scribbling ladies

here was a pleasant bar at the main Press Centre at the Olympic Games in Atlanta By one of those rum quirks of faith, you only found British journalists inside it. Occasionally, we remarked on this. The British are not the only drinking journalists," one of our number said. "Somewhere very near here there is a bar be-

ing drank dry by the Dutch."
It is not the tradition of alcohol that is unique, because an awful lot of nations do that. It is the tradition of standing up drinking beer and, as Eric Bristow himself so rightly pointed out, you can take darts out of the pub, but you can nev-

hegemony in the world of darts would be ceded to the

an exoticism. He would not stand out in any pub in Britam: just another suety man valiantly not pretending that he isn't going bald. He looks to be no stranger to his country's best known export, the one that comes in green tins.

Various sports have what you might call the "world se ries syndrome", a world cham-pionship fought for by a single nation. In this country, the world championships of snooker and darts are seldom contested, still less won, by any non-Brit. But now we have Barney and his followcess anywhere in the world, bright orange.

There is generally an air of great good humour and festi-val when the Dutch have a decent sporting run on their hands and descend upon it in numbers. Besides, the Dutch and the Brits have always rather got on. This is not true of the Brits and the French — I suspect it is because the French insist on doing their drinking sitting down. It will be a while before we have a French world champion at darts.

Rum thing, darts. There are plenty of sports in which television gives you a better view, but with darts, television gives you the only view. True, the





been packing in 1,200 people a session for the Embassy world championships, which con-cluded last night, but no one there can see what is going on. The actual sporting part of darts is only comprehensible on television: specifically, only comprehensible in unique, split-screen masterboard on one side and the face closed skills. In golf, in darts,

the sport has a fascination, it is one that it shares with golf. It is about the influence of the opponent on a player's closed skills. A closed skill, in sporting jargon, is a skill that physically, anyway - your opponent cannot interfere with. A golf shot: a dart throw: a triple-salchow: a clear round: sport is full of examples of

opponents are not allowed to tackle, but they can affect the opposition with their poise, their presence, their performance. That is how darts works: the excellence of one player will force another into error, or, sometimes, into greater ex-cellence. A 140 is followed by an embarrassing 41 - or by a

But the BBC television coverage has lost all faith with the actual action. Cut-aways rule. There are more cut-aways than action shots: fans cheering, fans looking disappointed, fans drinking. And, especially, the cameras home in on the harrowed faces of tortured and traumatised women. ers: in agony, not just because — my favourite this — a cutthey married a darts player a tough enough break, in all conscience — but also because their man is now up there ping-ing in the 180s. Or not, of

One of the semi-finals had that important aspect of any darts tournament: a really quite incredibly fat person. This was Andy "The Viking" Fordham: a beard, long hair and an unfortunate upwardlooking camera angle that made the most of his over-stated mammary development. Fordham moves with the delicate, finicky grace you often find in the truly obese. And

then a cut-away to The Vi-

king's mum, in anguish as her

away to two middle-aged ladies in glasses, wearing identical blue waistcoats and scribbling furiously with identical pencils.

Who were they? Were they adding up the bar takings? Playing bingo, or battle ships? adore the fact that the camera turned to them at least half-adozen times in two hours of television and each time the ladies were doing exactly the same thing - scribbling away and looking through their glasses - and no one ever mentioned them, still less, explained them. Darts is an area of life that is not exactly chock

Houllier's men spook mischievous souls who turned up for a laugh at their expense

Defenders of the faith spoil the fun

picked out for special mournful attention by Alan Hansen on Match of the Day, it was quite a strange experience watching them play on Saturday at Highbury. How odd that in real life Phil Babb, Steve Staumon and Jamie Carragher are not (every ten seconds or so) freeze-framed hopelessly out of position and circled in white.

It was a cruel disappointment. Sometimes you go to football in mischlevous spirit you want to see for yourself just how bad the Liverpool defence is. You want to have a fine old laugh at David James. So, when the whole visiting team-play as a defensive walllocking hands across the pitch and performing the football equivalent of the cygnet dance in Swan Lake I have to say it removes a substantial slice of the pleasure.

Still, football support is all about observing trends and remaking the story of whars going on. The strengths and weaknesses of Liverpool were sufficiently wellknown to be rather boring, after all; on Sahrday, Gérard Houllier certainly made his team the talk-ing point, by doing something supremely out of the ordinary, to lay the ghost of Roy Evans. A defensive triumph, plus Paul Ince wasn't sent off and Michael Owen didn't score. It was spooky.

Meanwhile, Arsene Wenger's

team performed more or less as you would predict. Despite the substitutions caused by injury.
Arsenal's roundhead defence was solid and strong its cavalier midfield was thrusting curlyhaired and inventive; and its pathetic forwards feebly wrote poetry with big feathers while coughing blood into a hankie.



Same old, same old, as you might say. Take Marc Overmars. He raced about tirelessly and devotedly, doing the work of five men; a loosened bandage flapped unregarded at his injured knee. And why? Because he can't play any other way. He sprints, turns, sprints, beats a defender, turns, sprints towards the corner. Does his tongue really hang out like a sheepdog's, or do I imagine it? One thing is sure if Overmars were a real sheepdog, he'd be the worthy star of a series of animalhero movies. They could call him

Dutch Sprint, turn, race, woof. "Retch the dynamite out of the mine shaft, Dutch!" they'd say, and off he'd go at breakneck speed. You can just see him. His legs a blur, he circles back to collect a baby from a blazing shack, emerg-ing singed around the ears. Woof, woof. Well done, Dutch! Here's a bone. Music swells. (The end).





Halo, Halo: the boys in bubbles were noticeably absent on Saturday night, so, for those who missed them, here are Harkness and Heggem in more familiar guises

story isn't changing much at the moment. There is a regular trickle of success, but the triumph is mainly empty of pride, because something Dennis-shaped is missing. Every few weeks, Dennis Bergkamp appears to be fit and able to play - and then it turns out that he isn't; or wasn't; or isn't now, anyway. Hopes rise cautiously, level out for a bit, falter, and then sink again. One wonders how long a player known for changing the. course of games can sustain such a reputation without actually playing. Meanwhile, Nicolas Anelka, Luis Boa Morte and Christopher Wreh faff about aimlessly in a kind of limbo, taking it in turns to strike comically wide of goal, as if there's no point trying until

Dennis's Second Coming. So Arsenal dominated on Saturday, but couldn't score. Mean-while, Liverpool huddled together

But, as I mentioned, Arsenal's at the back (attractive in yellow), tory isn't changing much at the and occasionally shot the ball forward, over everybody's heads, to Owen, who couldn't score either.

Owen's best chance required him to use a left foot (which he doesn't have. It's a well-known fact, appar-ently, that when Owen's little face clouds over with concentration as he rockets towards goal at St Etienne, scattering Argentinian defenders like skittles. he is not asking him-self: "Mmm, which foot shall I use?" as I always supposed. When it boils down to it, amazingly,

he's only got the one. How could such a frustrating afternoon be made worse for a sensation-seeker? Well, interestingly, by two French coaches good-

naturedly patting each other on the back at the press conference and rehearsing an array of affirmative abstract nouns. I don't

know why this was so

annoying, but it was. Tension Liverpool's composure, character and discipline in defence were usually is admired by both men; strength, solidity, blah. blah, blah, composure, discipline Houllier between declared that he didn't volatile, mind a bit of tension between his players, as it was a sign of "men-tal toughness". Which is nonsense, of course, stupid people ? since tension (ie, fighting) usually arises

between people who are volatile and stupid. But you somehow cannot deny that "tension is a sign of mental toughness" sounds quite philosophical when delivered in a cultured French accent with a complacent smile. Meanwhile, Wenger was not

only supportive of Houllier but determinedly uncritical of Liverpool's niggardly performance. We cannot ask our opponents to play a certain way," he shrugged. "I don't want to judge what other teams do. They set you a problem and you must solve it. I have to respect what they did." Having enough antagonism on his plate at the moment, perhaps Wenger was simply being prudent in not stir-

ring more controversy.
Will they remain churns? If one may borrow an outmoded argot from Popeye Doyle in *The French* Connection, having been Prog One for so long in English football, how does it feel for Wenger to face the possible threat of demotion to Frog Two? Houllier is not only turning his team round, but is personable and clever. He is evidently the aca-

ning of the toss is not an auto-

matic step to success and

weather vagaries can upset the best calculations, but at

least the heavy element of luck

that exists at present would be

largely eliminated.

33 York Terrace West. NWI 4QA.

Ashes strategy

Sir, Though the other propos-als likely to be debated by the

International Cricket Council

last week are to be resisted.

there is one (report, January 2)

that sounds most attractive: ap-

parently, the Asian bloc will propose "a retrospective life

ban on Shane Warne and

I cannot imagine what this

MacLaurin of Knebworth pos-

Mark Waugh".

From Mr R.N.G. Stone

Yours sincerely.

M. S. JOSEPH,

e-mail, including a postal address and daytime telephone number, should be sent to: sport.letters@the-times.co.uk

demic type we, at first, mistook Wenger for. He has a twinkly eye and says interesting, epigrammat-ic things like: "Sometimes a show-er is beneficial." At the risk of a pun, Arsène, is this galling?

Meanwhile, spare a thought for the production team at Match of the Day, left with a batch of unused Liverpool-defender circles. You'll be wanting these, Alan? they said, handing them over and counting them out. "One for Staunton, four for Babb ..."

"Not today, boys," was the baffling, brusque Scottish reply. What to do with a dozen redundant graphics? Cheerful types. doubtless they wore them on their heads as halos. They played hoopla in the canteen. They juggled four at a time. But it must have been hard to forget that something strange had happened. The boys in the bubbles had escaped their

Sports letters may be sent by fax to 0171-782 52[].

Clubs should punish cheats

Sir, Arsène Wenger complains (report, January 1) about the "divers and cheats" and adds his name to the weekly list of managers who continue to berate referees. The standard of refereeing is probably at a low ebb and Wenger, Ferguson, Strachan et al are both correct and justified in bemoaning the level of cheating that is entering the game as never before.

They are wrong, however, an blaming the hapless referee. is not the referees who are cheating but the players. The individual managers are in charge of the team and it is therefore surely reasonable to expect the buck to rest on the manager's desk. Instead of complaining

about opposing players and referees week after week, it is time that these highly-paid apologists and complainers did their job properly. If they are so concerned about cheating, will they discipline their own guilty players? I suspect not, but I put this proposition forward as an open letter to all league managers (Premiership or otherwise) to have the courage to go into print and onfirm that they will take action against their own players

If there are no takers to my invitation, I must pose the sim-

Yours faithfully, W. A. WATSON, 22 Ashby Road, Kegworth, Derby DE74 2DH.

From Mr Ian Todd Sir. Arsene Wenger is right to decry cheating by players, but there is a sumpler, if less likely, way of curbing this than ask-ing the FA Premier League to

view a video of every game.

The message that Wenger preaches would be more effecfively delivered by his own brethren. There is no reason why Alan Curbishley should not impose an equivalent internal discipline by dropping Redfearn for the next game. Similarly, Vialli might drop Leboeuf in their joint acknowledgement that he was lucky to escape a red card. The Corinthian ethos will be more telling if delivered by the player's own employer than some neu-

tral third party. In contrast, Wenger is wrong in his defence of Vieira. Surely the point of impact is irrelevant. The critical factor is the use and manner of delivery of the elbow.

Yours faithfully, IAN TODD. Chairman, Supporters' Clubs. Federation. 8 Wyke Close, . .. Isleworth TW7 5PE.

Need to support Britain's young athletes

SPORTS LETTERS

From Mr Nic Gault

Sir, it was a real new year tonic to read David Powell's piece on the excellent work of the Ron Pickering Memorial Pund in supporting young athletes (Champions who benefit in the long run, January 4). However, more support of this kind is needed urgently if we are going to continue to produce world-beating athletes, especially in the building the Sugrey Observe Corner. in the build-up to the Sydney Olympic Games

Barclaycard research into the funding of Brit-ish sportspeople revealed that athletes receive just half of the funding that they actually need to compete successfully with their international rivals and that three out of five athletes believe that this hinders their sporting performance and potential. It was information such as this that led to us to set up Barclaycard Team 2000 in conjunction with SportsAid, the country? leading sports charity. We support a hundred of Britain's best young sportspeople with all-round grants of up to £20,000 each to help with their training.

British athletes deserve our nation's encour-

agement - financially as well as from the grandstand.

Yours faithfully. NIC GAULT.

Head of Sponsorship, Bardaycard, 1234 Pavilion Drive, Northampton NN4 7SG.

Yours sincerely,

JEFFREY MORGAN,

virtually be eliminated at a stroke of the rulebook pen!

Cynical fouls

From Mr Jeffrey Morgan Sir, in football the sending-off is supposed to be the ultimate deterrent to the cynical professional foul, but, on the evidence of recent years, it is obviously not having the

Statistical analysis of the games in which a player has been sent off shows that playing with only ten men is not a great disadvantage. It may hinder the attacking play of the penalised side, but it does not, for a variety of reasons. make it much easier for the full-strength side to score. Defensive players, when de-

ciding whether or not to bring

down an attacking player, are simply playing the percentag-es. If a striker is running clear on goal, the defender will always bring him down if he can, even if it means being sent off. The defender is sensibly calculating that stopping an almost certain goal is worth the penalty of reducing his own team to ten men, because playing with ten men is not nearly as damaging as con-

ceding a goal. In my opinion, the only on the pitch the foul is

remedy is to change the rules so that whenever a player is sent off, a penalty goal is also awarded, regardless of where

Draconian it may be, but

the professional four would

Minority sports From Mr A. Copley

Hampton Lucy CV35 8BE.

Sir, I fly radio control and free flight electric model aeroplanes and am not sure that David Powell is correct in stating (December 31) that these minority sports deserve a wid-er acclaim. One of the advantages and pleasures is the limited general coverage. There are plenty of monthly magazines.

Iniquity of cricket toss

From Mr Michael Joseph

Sir, I have read that the counties are proposing a change in the toss so that the visiting side has the choice in order to comknowledge and advantage. Cricket is a game of complex

skills and it seems inequitable that, in a Test series, the toss should play such a significant part. If tossing a coin does involve a special skill, it would be useful if it was introduced without delay into our captain's training manual.

Why cannot the rules be changed so that the toss is effective for the first game in a series of, say, five matches and then the choice alternates, with a further toss for the fifth

would mean, but if it entails that all Warne's wickets and all Waugh's runs in their careers to date are to be discountclubs, shows throughout the country and exhibition flying ed, and the results of the Tests in which they played adjusted accordingly, then by next week displays without the build-up on the sports pages.

That television does not in-England will be in possession of the Ashes. How can Lord

sports is part of their charm. A. COPLEY, 2, Main Street, Hutton Cranswick,

terest itself in these minority

sibly vote against? Yours faithfully. R.N.G. STONE. 92, Foxwell Street, Worcester. WR5 2ET.

This week in THETIMES



Tomorrow: After their winning start against England's one-day cricketers take on Sri Lanka, the world

Vednesday: FA Cup third-round replays - can Kevin Keegan's expensive army defeat Southampton

at Craven Cottage? Thursday: Golf's European Tour begins - where else? - in Cape Town. John Hopkins on the 1st tee

Football Saturday: Match by match previews of the Premiership, plus football's finest team of columnists --Frank Leboeuf on life at the

looks ahead to the coming

top of the league, Danny Baker, Robert Elms and Alvson Rudd.

Bath drained by accuracy of Wilkinson

Newcastle Falcons.....25

By Mark Souster

SOME cried, others shook their heads in disbelief, the remainder sat, heads bowed, in stunned silence. After the cruel manner of their last-minute defeat by Newcastle Falcons. Andy Robinson admitted that the Bath dressing-room resem-bled a morgue. The league was already a mirage, now the Tetley's Bitter Cup, the knockout competition that they had won ten times, was out of reach. The club that for years had been weaned on nothing but a diet of success had had the life squeezed out of it.

Yet it is no disgrace to lose at Kingston Park. No one has won there in the cup for two years, nor in the league for three. The fact that they came so close indicates that Bath's decline is not terminal. At the press conference, Robinson went through his now customary defence of his position and spoke positively

about the future. We have been slagged off because of the lack of team spirit, which is a complete joke," Robinson, the Bath coach, said. There is a lot of pride at this club. We lost a game we should have won and we won't be in the draw on Monday morning. That is bitterly disappointing."

While Bath's fortunes have been well-chronicled, do not forget that Newcastle, too. have had problems. Rob Andrew has had to contend with turmoil behind the scenes and the departure of key personnel, while also developing a more varied playing style. Critics have been quick to forget what has already been achieved. Newcastie have an exciting crop of talented individuals emerging from their among them Jimmy Cartmell row, proving that there is life

after Dean Ryan and Pat Lam. It was Beattie's charge through a static Bath defence ten minutes from time for a converted try that brought Newcastle level.

Bath needed a wise head to

guide them, but no one took responsibility. In contrast, they were mugged by the most talented teenager of them all. Much has been written and said about the ability of Jonny Wilkinson since he burst into the England side last March. only, like many others, to suf-fer from the fall-out of the disastrous summer. Chastened, but never doubting his own Newcastle to regroup, out of the limelight. On Saturday he kicked 2D points, from six sweetly-struck penalty goals and a conversion — the final penalty soaring over in the

perfectly-executed driven maul from a lineout 20 metres minute after Ben out, the second made by the vi-sion of Cooper at scrum half, whose speed and length of Sturnham had been adjudged, harshly, to have impeded pass give Mike Can priceless breathing space. After half an hour, he was denied a try only by Walton's timely intervention after a break and chip down the blindside. Five minutes after a charge by Lyle and Webster, Cooper switched direction at a ruck and Catt burst over. The third

try bordered on the comical. Armstrong's attempted clearance was charged down, Guscott forced Andrew to knock on and Earnshaw touched down. That Newcastle were able to haul themselves back says much for their resilience and self-belief. SCORERS: Newcastle Breatle (7 Irmn) Conven

Andrew has little doubt that

Wilkinson's future lies as the England fly half. "We all ex-

pect that. The sky is the limit

as far as Jonny is concerned.

The bottom line at the top level

is whether a guy can handle it

mentally. He can: he wants to

do the goal-kicking." Not one of his penalty goals was from

less than 35 metres, not one

looked like missing. The three

most important came in a ten-

minute period after half-time

when Newcastle needed mo-

Newcastle were actually so far adrift at half-time. In the open-

ing ten minutes, Tuigamala

could have scored two tries

and Marius Hurter was de-

nied a try because of a double

movement. Yet Bath retaliated with three tries. The first was a

It was hard to believe that



Irish exploit huge gap in class

London Irish.

By DAVID HANDS

THIS has been a good week-end for the Irish, although, at a freezing Memorial Stadium sterday, there were few sons of Erin present. However, the London exiles (southern-hemi-sphere branch) emerged from a demanding week with three valued scalps under their belts, the latest of them carrying them through to today's fifth-round draw of the Tetley's Bitter Cup.

Within eight days, London Irish have brought down Newcastie and Northampton, in the Allied Dunbar Premiership, and now the leaders of the second division, for whom the fourth round of the cup was an exercise in the art of the possible. They met the inform club of the first division before a crowd of 6,200, their comprehensively defeated, though the politics and business ethics now at work in English rugby place a query over Bristol's status a week

Nick de Scossa, the Bristol chief executive, was adamant that a challenge will be mounted within days to the per-ceived plans of the leading English clubs, should they ber promotion from the second division. They are pre-pared to buy a 100 per cent holding in a first division club - Tony Tiarks, the chairman of London Scottish, who have been linked with the deal, was at the ground - and De Scos-

sa said that there were three clubs interested in buying. Bristol's assets. None of the assurances we have had from the Rugby Football Union [RFU] or English First Division Rugby have been anything we feel we can trust," he said. "I can't run a business with liabilities

of £2 million a year. It's unre-

alistic and it's about time peo-

ple understood that." Bristol are prepared to merge the playing assets of two companies - their own and their putative purchase - to ensure a lace at the top table and they

defy the RFU to stop them. All of which made the afternoon's competition seem stillborn, which, until the second half, it was. The Irish, playing a brand of rugby that made Bristol look leaden-footed, were 29 points to the good be-fore their bosts nibbled their way on to the scoreboard. Not until the final quarter did the irish relax their efforts.

At times. Dick Best's players made the game resemble a training exercise, so easy was their movement of the ball. The Bristol defence was opened up time and again by the variety of the midfield passing and the perceptive entries into the line of Conor O'Shea. The Irish might have doubled their first-half tally of. four tries but for desperate last-ditch tackling from

and Woods baffled Bristol utterly, the pair sharing the first two tries before Bachop's brilliant flat pass sent Venter to the line. A more prosaic score followed when his pack shunted Kirke over, and they did the same for Boer to open the second half. At that stage, Bristol's southern-hemisphere contingent, which amounted to nine, looked distinctly cutprice compared with the Irish octet, but they stuck to it and shared the spoils in the second half.

Howley's presence allows Cardiff to shine

By GERALD DAVIES

IN RECOVERING from the defeat of 31-15 by Swansea in the first week of December to win so handsomely on Saturday, Cardiff had to perform better than they had done all sea-

Their form has been firful, not only from one week to the next, but within individual matches. With a team of many talents and an envious number of international players, they promise more than they deliver. There is nothing new in this — inconsistency is their very frustrating condiprevious five matches and this was as good a way as

any to stop the rot. Swansea have had the opposite experience. They had succeeded on six consecurive occasions and have been playing impressively. To close this gap, the home team needed a special performance and although they were not uni-formally good, Cardiff had, in Robert Howley, the player who made the difference. If Cardiff lost lineout possession to Andy Moore, they faired far better than expected elsewhere. Time and again, they turned Swansea over in the tussie for the loose ball.

If Cardiff had the better of the territory, they lacked the subtlety to break down the opposition's threequarter defence in the way that Van Rensburg or Weatherley, when he came on, were able to. The tackling was fiercely aggressive. Yet, rising above this. Howley, at critical moments, made the

This was as good a

Scienceser -18 8 0 7 0 363 385 Sale - 18 7 0 11 434 515 London Scott 7 5 0 12 306 478 Badford 18 2 0 16 354 581 W Hartispool 77 2 0 15 269 828

match-as we are likely to

see in Wales this season.

With a capacity crowd of 14,000, the atmosphere was appropriate for such a

contest. There were no tro-

phies at stake, but the repu-

tation of each club was. Six

for desperate cover de-

fence, another half a dozen

went begging.
The highlight of the first

half was the home team's

brilliant counter-attacking.

This was at a time when

Swansea were beginning to

put their game together af-

ter a thundering opening sal-vo by Cardiff. From under-

neath their posts. Steve

Moore and Craig Morgan

came away to send Sullivan on a 70-metre run to score.

When Swansea in-creased the pace of the

game after the interval and

had several threatening at-

tacks, Howley came away

from a scrum in his own

half to chip ahead and chase. When he had the

line in his sights, Van Rens-

burg tackled him as he was

about to gather the ball. A

Swansea responded beautifully when Thomas

delayed his pass for Van

Rensburg to take an angled

run and pave the way for a try by Rees. Although

chances came their way.

the visitors failed to make

penalty try was awarded.

tries were scored and, but

Worcester worthy of The Shed's respect

BY MARK BALDWIN

IT IS only 25 miles down the M5 from Worcester to Kingsholm, but, until Saturday, it was a rugby journey that had never been made. New ave-nues should always be open, however, to those aspiring to greater things and Worcester know now that they are not far short of top quality, although Richard Hill, the Gloucester director of rugby, was not be-ing uncharitable when he suggested that "quite considera-ble" additions would have to be made for Worcester to to prosper among the elite.

Les Cusworth, the Worcester coach, had cause for disappointment that Gloucester were not run closer after a powerful forward effort. Their 2,000 travelling supporters even out-shouted The Shed at times, especially when the outstanding Jim Jenner peeled off a maul to cut Gloucester's lead to 13-17 just before the interval.

Worcester spoilt a commit-ted first half with two moments of sloppiness, a missed pass in the centre allowing Mark Mapletoft to dash 75 metres to score before another handling mistake resulted in a try for Philippe Saint-Andre.

This, though, was a day to praise Worcester and a day to remember for the influential Mapletoft, whose partner, Tina, gave birth to a daughter. Ellie, midway through the

gattion.

SCORERS: Gloucester: Triper Macket 35 (Bring) Sant-Andre (CS), Operation (44) Factor (61) Commersion: Mapleton Persister Seets: Mapleton 3 15, 20, 57) Worcester: Triper Retractors (17), Jernet 40) Commersions: Liey 2 Pensity goal: Liey (18)

SCORING SEQUENCE (Goucester Incl.)
30-10-0-10-7-13-7-10-7-10-10-18-17
(hall-time), 23-17, 26-17-31-17
GLOUCESTER: C Cattury B Johnson T
Fanckia, R Greenstade Jones P Sant-Andre (rep. A Lumadon, 74men) M Mappelot
N Carry T Woodman, N McCarthy (rep. C
Foctor, 40), A Deacon (rep. D. Sms., 40), E
Fider M Comwell (rep. D. Sms., 40), E
Pearose, N Carter (rep. A Hozell, 65), S
Ocomoh

Opmoh

WORDESTER: J Liley S Morris, D Hught, 5
rep P Holford, 54), R Myler, N Baster fret,
N Malrone 57; R Le Bast, B Fensey (rep. S
Powell 77; M Limoth, D Berl (rep. G Houstear 77) PM Archell free J Broady 28:35;
R Dentrand, C Raymond, G Clark (rep. M Gabert, 74) N Richardson, J Jenner (rep. E Orcep. 54)

By NICOLAS ANDREWS

Wilkinson kicks the

THEY don't like to be called a club in crisis, but Bedford's troubled season hit a new low with this Tetley's Bitter Cup fourth-round defeat at Goldington Road yesterday. Henley, level with Manchester at the top of the Jewson National League first division. thoroughly deserved the victory over their Allied Dunbar Premiership opponents, it may have been the shock of the round, but there was no class di-

vide evident on the pitch. "In comparison to some sides in our division, their scrum was reasonably lightweight," Jerry Sampson, the Henley lock, said of Bedford after-

"We were confident," Phil Osman, the fly half and acting captain, added. There was no reason to be intimidated because we expect to be playing them in the league next season."

Henley deliver a knockout blow to suffering Bedford

That confidence was in stark contrast to Bedford's nervousness and indecision. Coolness, width and creativity were called for, particularly in the last 20 minutes, but too often Bedford ploughed a panicky, predictable fur-row down the middle, which played straight into the hands of a resolute Henley defence. A glance at the league tables would have told Bedford that Henley's defensive record is second to none this season.

Henley took an important early lead when Sharp gathered a clearance kick by Stebbings and forced his way through two half-tackles, Bed-ford struck back when their most profitable tactical ploy - the penalty kick to the corner, followed by a drive from the lineout - brought a try for Forster, but Henley responded with a similar move as Sampson won a lineout and Berryman was carried over.

Bedford's most fluent move of the half yielded a try for Whetstone as the full back raced on to Ewens's kick through, but Whetstone was left floundering in the mud soon after-wards as Sharp burst through his tackle for a deserved second try. The Bedford full back picked himself up to score in the left-hand corner after Harrison had tapped and run a penalty, but Roke kicked a penalty goal in the final minute of the half to give Henley a seven-point interval lead. Still, the majority of spectators in a

expectantly for Bedford to find another gear and the sort of form that took them so close to victory at Newcastlelast Tuesday. Indeed. Forster levelled the scores from another lineout and maul and, with 30 minutes to go, Bedford had the opportunity to pull clear. Instead, though, it was Henley who scored Sharp broke from half-way and found Russell Osman with an inside pass. The centre fed his brother, Phil, who went over unoposed. Bedford's gloom was completed when Stratuli, their captain and director of rugby, was carried off with another ankle injury. We have disappointed ourselves

down and it needed a cool head, but we did the opposite. It was the worst Bedford side."

The court case between Frank War-ren, the Bedford owner, and Don King, the boxing promoter, starts tomorrow and, one way or another, Bedford could be out of their financial limbo within a week. Money matters to Henley, too, of course. There were no win bonuses for a team that will remain semi-professional even if they are promoted, but more tradi-tional celebrations followed by Monday morning hangovers seemed to be the pressing problem last night.

the pressing problem last night.

SCONESS Bedford: Tries: Forster 2 (9, 49), Whetene 2 (21, 38), Communious Yapp, Henfey: Tries: Sear 2 (4, 34), Benyman (40, 1 Osmen (57), Common Paper 1 (4, 34), Benyman (40, 1 Osmen (57), Common Paper 1 (4, 34), Benyman (40, 1 Osmen (57), Common Paper 1 (4, 34), Common (4, 3

and our supporters," Straeuli said af-terwards. "We had to slow the game **Brown sweetens**

Newbury, coached by Kevin Bowring, formerly of Wales,

for Farr, the scrum half.

After Brown had opened the scoring. Newbury had three successive penalties in the right-hand corner of the Richmond 22. Instead of opting for a kick at goal and the possibili-ty of at least three points to raise morale, they chose to kick for position. However, between them, Poihipi and Blake contrived to slice their kicks, thus negating the advantage. In front of a crowd of 2,859, Newbury had two periods in the first half encamped on the Richmond line, but the nearest that they came to scoring was when Craig Davies was tackled into touch a yard out by Ben Clarke, playing his first game for a month after fracturing a cheekbone. Ultimately, the fact that Richmond are ac-

SCORERS: Richmond: Tries: Brown 3 Gran, 70, 90), Vender (29), Pichol (32), Walle (35), Bitchman (47), Chapman (66) Conversionst Va's 3 Newbory: Tries: Guly (40), Holiosey (73), Conversion: Paligo.

customed to the greater pace and intensity of professional

rugby gave them the advan-

SCORING SEQUENCE (Retmond first: 5-0, 10-0, 17-0, 24-0, 24-7 (half-time), 23-7, 34-7, 41-17, 41-12, 46-12 S4-7, 41-7, 41-12, 46-12
RICHMOND: M Pire (rep. D Chapman, 61):
N Wadre, A Baseman, M Desne, S Brown, E
We's, A Pichal (rep. A Moore, 61): D MicPariand, A Cuttibert, J Davies (rep. M Fitzperiad, B), C-Cusmel, C Galles, R Helton, A
Vender (rep. L Cabernes, 71), B Clarke

MEMPO/INY: T Hollowey, T Howe, R Steles,
G Reeyer, J Griffiths (rep. T Centres, 88); J
Polings, J Fox (rep. 8 Wilder, 62); S Bown
(rep. D Davis, 75), N Collins (rep. J Brammer, 68), R Kellein, P. Curte, S Steles (rep. T
Anfact, 76), C Dewies, S Guilly (rep. C Hart,
S5), G Power (rep. J Kingdon, 83)

further inroads. Two penalby goals by Thomas closed the gap, but two late tries by Cardiff — giving them a total of five in all — provid ed a scoreline that did not reflect the true balance of SCORERS. Caratiff: Tries: Stillwart (16min), His (40), pensity by (47), Winfie (72), Moore (77). Convinciona.
James 3. Pennishy speller James 3. (2. 9.
39) Swamsee: Tyre Rese (51), Coopershort A Thomas Pennishy goods: A Thomas 4 (19. 43, 59. 63)
SCORENG SEQUENCE (Caratif first).
3-0, 6-0, 13-0, 13-3, 16-3, 21-3, 78-8,
James 19. 40-19.
CARDUSTF: C. Morozart S. Hat. In Half. M.

55-19, 40-19.

CARDUFF, C. Morgary, S. Hal, M. Hall, M. Mintle, A. Sullivari, frep. L. Butharn, 189min; L. Janes, R. Houstey, S. John 1997- A. Lewis, 833, D. Geraphin, D. Young (rep. L. Muston, 633, S. Bicore, D. Jones prep. K. Sawarat, 653, G. Mislens, P. Wheeler (rep. J. Tet. 1991, G. Macalle, S. Markes, M. Gydor, C. van Pansburg, M. Robersont, A. Thortast-Steps, A. Lewison, 763, R. Jess, M. Gydor, C. van Pansburg, M. Robersont, A. Thortast-Steps, A. Lewison, 763, R. Jess, Clunder (rep. P. Anthony, 433, G. Jenhass, rept. C. Welle, 763, B. Evans, P. Amold, A. Moole-jrac, P. Mortasty, 51), C. Chippies, D. Triorrise, L. Jones,

Saracens freeze out minnows

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

EIGHT months after Saracens strolled past Wasps on a sun-dappled afternoon at Twickenham, the Tetley's Bitter Cup-holders began their defence yesterday in the less exalted surroundings of Scatcherd Lane with a wintry walkover in West Yorkshire.

Morley had conceded the tenth of 12 tries when the home crowd, who refused to give up on their side, raised the roof. Chris Hall, the full back, broke through the Saracens cover for a cherished touchdown: 74 one-sided minutes had preceded it.

Morley. 38 places below Saracens at one off the bottom of the Jewson National League first division. looked every inch a side that had not won in the league sino: October. A moneyspinning tie had also to be judged against the damage done by Allied Dunbar Premiership opposition to already fragile confidence in Morley's

relegation struggle. Saracens, thoroughly professional and utterly merciless. comfortably overhauled their cup record win of 59-31 at Blackheath in the fourth round last year. Five tries were added to seven in the first half, during which the home side

breached the Saracens 22 only once, from a restart. Brendon Daniel completed

a hat-trick on the right wing. although opposite him, the promising Adam Standeven, who is interesting several rugby league clubs, gave a reasonable account of himself in Morley's few attacks of note. Tom Tabua and Alan Pierre fought to the bitter end up front. but these were minor triumphs. Volunteers spent two hours

with buckets of hot water attempting to thaw out the ground, but the way that Morley stood frozen to the spot from the first exchanges sumply invited trouble. The pitch really wasn't playable." Mark Evans, the Saracens director of coaching, said, "but professionalism was the difference. It's so much harder for junior sides to compete now."

SCORERS: Northey Try: Hor Tarry, Pen-alty gook: Baraber (3): Sarabara: Tries. David 3 (19-38-46): Usen 2-4-20. Johnson (1): Penaud (17): Core (2): Sarab (6)): Present (17): Core (3): Sarab (6)): Present (3): Core (3): Sarab Conversions: Johnson 8

SCORING SEQUENCE Mass. 155-96 0-12-0-19-9-24-0-29-0-36-0-31-12-1-12-1 0-48-3-43-3-55-3-62-8-62-8-69-3-15 MORLEY, CHail J. Barker key C. Johnson, Thresh, G. Borne, A. Sales, A. Standarer, T. Barriber key M. Sales, T. J. T. Mr. Neu Handler, Berman, A. Goodman, Extracer length of Seman, A. Goodman, Extracer length of the Seman hour N. S. Johnson Marker, P. Seeland, hour S. Chimotottale, Gi. J. Spanicovery S. Smith, 65. L. L. Lamber, T. Tabura.

SARACENS: G Sonnen B Carde B Consable Irea B Johnston 53 na. 4 Conse St., S Ravenscoth B Maracentar M Songer 15: A Pendua Moller Irea S Fire St. A Ower, G Bottemer, J Danson, K Charley, D Greecoth, P Ogiste B Henry B Coles, SJI 1 Coker

Inspired Kendal so close to upset

disappointing crowd of 1,306 waited

Kendal

London Scottish..... BY ALASDAIR REID

A HEROIC performance by Kendal and very nearly a hero-ic win as well. At the end of this remarkable match, they were camped on the London Scottish line, just as they had been throughout most of a final quarter in which they threw fury in the faces of London Scottish, hauling themselves back from a 25-10 deficit with a performance of enormous passion and heart.

Only time ran out for them, for you sensed that their adrenalin would have sustained them until the middle of next week. Roared on by a capacity crowd of 3,000 at their compact Mint Bridge ground the Jewson National League second division north side humbled their Allied Dunbar Premiership opponents with their endeavour and came achingly close to claiming a place in the Terley's Bitter Cup fifth round.

That would have been no more than they deserved, for, as well as appearing to want that place more than London Scottish, they also out-scored them 43 on tries. At the end. only the erratic goal-kicking by Casey Mee, the Kendai fly half denied the learn a remarkable win and the town an ex-

مكذابن (لإعلى

cuse for the biggest party Lakeland would have seen in years. "I am very, very proud." Pe-

ter Kremer, the Kendal coach,

said. "The biggest fear was that we wouldn't perform." That worry was banished by Mee's try after nine minutes and even as London Scottish. edged towards their 17-5 inter-val lead, with tries by Mac-Donald and Forrest and a penalty goal and two conversions by De Beer, it was clear that Kendal were performing well. Basing their game on pow-erful driving manls, they reas-

serted themselves just after the break, with a try by Whitehead from a tap penalty move. London Scottish answered by putting Manson-Bishop over the line, but that was only a one for Kendal's incredible assault towards the end, when two tries by Colin Wolstenbolme took them so close to the win they arguably deserved.

with they argusably deserved. SCORERS: Kandak Trisc Mee 91, Ways-need (42) Watschooline 2 (67, 71). Lendon Scottiste Tries: MecConsid (17, Forses: CZ). Marson-Bishop (60). Conventions: De Bees 2 (43, 59).
SCORERG SEQUENCE (Kendal Inst) 5-C. 5-7 5-14 5-17 flad-tries: 10-17, 10-20, 10-25, 15-25, 20-25.
KENDAL P Docks, J Baimer, S Hooley 1 Voortman, D Seath prop D Pearse 51cm), C Mee P Hompson, B Goven, JAckholam (pp. 1 Gowing, 17). N Pearson, (10), I Romanson, (10), IP Hompson, M Const. J Ackholam (11), N Pearson, (10), I Romanson, (11), IP Hompson, M Const. C Shamer, R Doves, J Borney (12), D Lee Shamer, R Marson, J ob Bee S Cook (14), C Massine 69, 13 MacDonal D Contrars (14), D D Hacham, (17) P Johnson, G Marson-Sindy M McAlamer, T Daves, S Holmes, R Huster.

Richmond's day Richmond Newbury......12 By MARK SOUSTER

ASSISTED by a hat rick of tries by Spencer Brown, Richmond eased through to the fifth round of the Tetley's Bitter Cup against Newbury at the Madejski Stadium yesterday. Richmond, for whom this was a derby match, given their relocation to Reading, out-scored Newbury by eight tries to two, but the Jewson National League first division side can be hearrened by their com-petitive performance and, in Tom Holloway, the full back, who scored his side's second try, they possessed the man of the match.

have enjoyed mixed fortunes in the league, but they raised their game sufficiently in the opening quarter — during which Richmond were restricted to one try — to belie their status. They showed a commendable willingness to counter-attack and tackled courageously, none better than Tyrome Howe, the former Oxford Blue, who denied Brown a certain try in the second half and almost cut Pini in two in the first. They struggled to compere in the scrummage, which resulted in disrupted service

Reference D Grashoff (East Midlends).

David Hands, rugby correspondent, sees the French champions beaten in style at Ravenhill

Red hand of history beckons for Ulster

views encompass profit and not sport. This was one of the great days in rugby's history, when the breath of a passionate crowd of 20,000 drove their white-shirted heroes to a 33-27 victory that few had envisaged and which could yet do the same when Ulster play Colomiers in the European Cup final at Lansdowne

Road on January 30.

This is not a great Ulster team: two of the province's locks of considerable stature. Paddy Johns and Jeremy Davidson, ply their trade elsewhere, their scrum struggled throughout at Ravenhill on Satur-day, they were down to their last centre, and Sheldon Coulter and Andy Park, their wings, are not even assured of their club places at Ballymena. But come the hour and the XV became an expression of the longing of a community, not just in Ulster but from all over Ireland.

Observers there speak of a sporting void, most recently occupied by Jack Charlton's football team in the Republic but now waiting to be filled. Rugby could do it, if an Ireland team can sustain its acknowledged ability to achieve more than just famous but isolated victories. Ulster, Ireland's first European finalists, have shown that they can: from poor beginnings, they have won seven successive matches, three of them against the cream of French club rugby, Toulouse (twice) and now Stade Français.

What Europe has done for us is: to destroy the mystique of French rugby." Donal Lenihan, the Ireland team manager, said. Within eight days, Lemhan will be able to judge whether that is truly so: a week after Ulster's final against Colomiers (who beat an injury-rayaged Perpignan 10-6 in Toulouse), Ireland play France in the Five Nations Championship, also at Lansdowne Road, a fixture that they have not won since 1983.

They will surely do so with David Humphreys at fly half. The little Dungannon man, captain in the regretiable absence of Mark McCall — to whose off-field leadership Humphreys paid tribute showed all the wit and tactical acumen apparently lacking in the Ire-land back division. His try, three minutes after half-time, was at once a statement of intent and a brilliantly executed ploy that proved to be a

turning point in the game. It also demonstrated that Ulster were not there only to disrupt but also to play constructive rugby. Stade Français, the French champi-Stade Français, the French champiusing them, leaving a midfield one and blessed with outstanding that Ulster had identified as not players throughout the team, were having the softest hands in the



Mason, who kicked 20 points for his team, celebrates the victory that put Ulster into the final of the European Cup. Photographs: Mike Cooper/Allsport

reminiscent of Brive in the final of last season against Bath, when the Frenchmen lost their collective tactical sense; for a fortnight, Stade had prepared for a day of wind and rain and muddy going, yet, when they discovered surshine and a firm ground, a player as experienced as Diego Dominguez fell down. His side could have won the

game through the forwards: of their three tries, the first came from a pushover scrum, the others from a maul after a close-range lineout. All Dominguez had to do was ensure that the game was played around the Ulster 22 and kick the goals that followed; but be knew he had good backs and dwelled too long on the ball before

world to be clattered by the voracious Jan Cunningham.

The English-speakers among the Stade players admitted that there had been a loss of equilibrium as the game continually edged away

tion to blame marginal decisions by Jim Fleming, the referee, that erred towards Ulster, but the statistics show that to be no excuse; having been critical of the match arrangements and persuaded European Rugby Cup Ltd (ERC) to

change the match-day from a Fri-day night to Saturday, Stade had every reason to believe that their ambition of becoming European champions could be realised.

"But the crowd were so close to us, they were so passionate, there

down, never mind ourselves," Humphreys said. "Over the last two or three months, people have come to see us as spectators and gone away supporters." Such backing proved to be inspirational for forwards such as Mark Blair and Stephen McKinty, the veteran, who claimed the first try after rolling round the front of a lineout. Yet no player did more to win the

was no way we could let them

game than Simon Mason, the full back, who rose to fame at Newcastle and Orrell, then struggled with Richmond. In Ulster, he has found assurance and goal-licking of the utmost security: 20 points were added to his 196 points scored in 15 previous games this season, among them an assertive dropped goal early on that punished a wayward dearance by Dominguez.

en victory for granted when Ulster turned round leading only 11-10. It was, it seemed, only a question of time before the Stade forwards took a stranglehold, until Humphreys skipped to the blind side of a scrum and popped a perfect chip-kick over the defence. Coulter took it on the full, drew the cover and fed Humphreys on the outside, the fly half beating Christophe Moni in a 45-metre sprint to the line.

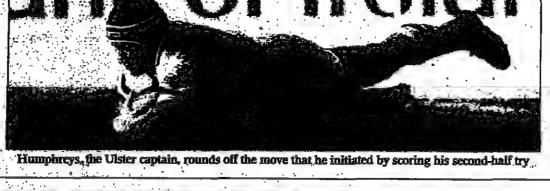
Instantiy, Ulster unleashed another move that released Park into space; the wing chipped too, Viars was gobbled up on his own line and penalised for not releasing the ball, Mason's penalty goal gave UIster ten points in as many minutes and, when Humphreys snapped over another dropped goal, the crowd could scarcely believe it.

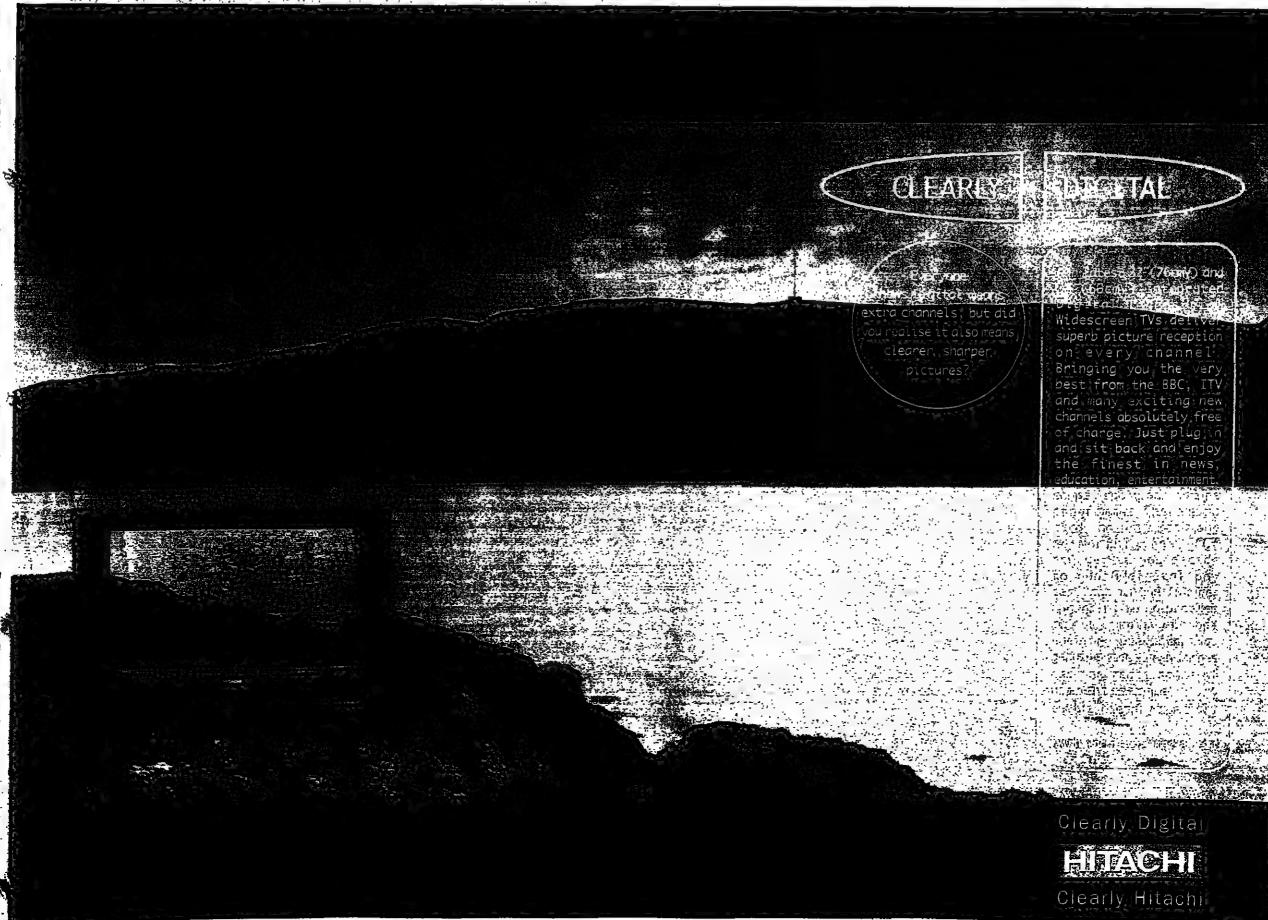
But Stade came once to within four points of Ulster, once to within three and, at 30-27 with 12 minutes remaining, a final place was less than secure. Then Mason, from 44 m 2s, drilled over his fifth penalty goal and, against inspired Ulster tackling, French cohesion and the chance of a match-winning try and conversion faded on the triumphant cheers echoing up to the Castlereagh Hills.

CASHCREAGH HILLS.
SCORPERS: Utater: Tries: McKinty (16mm)
Humpfreys (43), Conversions blacon Penalty
goals: Mason 5 (4, 49, 62, 66, 73), Dropped
goals: Mason 5 (4, 49, 62, 66, 73), Dropped
goals: Mason 19, Humphreys (63), Stade
Français: Tries: Juliet 2 (31, 56), Levremont (68)
Conversions: Domnquez 3 Penalty goals:
Domnquez 2 (12, 60)
SCORING SEQUENCE (Lister Inst): 3-0, 6-0, 6-3,
11-3, 11-10 (hall-time), 18-10, 21-10, 24-10, 24-7,
24-20, 27-20, 30-20, 30-27, 33-27,
ULSTER: S Mason, S Coulter, J Comminstern

could help shape the future of European competition: Brian Baister. the chairman of the Rugby Football Union's management board, and Francis Baron, his chief executive. are due to meet French federation officials in Paris today, while, on Priday, representatives of the English and French clubs meet. They will do so in an atmosphere

on the French side that is less than enamoured of ERC, the present tournament organisers. There is a belief among the leading French clubs, not obviously justified by results, that the organisers have leant over backwards to help homeunion teams and the French, whose existing participation agreement ends this season, know that they are in a strong position to determine the future of the .competition.





THEIR , day

Marking card for route to golfing success

The first harbinger that a new golfing year is about to begin is the conclusion of the President's Putter at Rve. The shapely East Sussex town is a glorious place in which to take a few practice swings for the coming months. In an age of subsonic flights, fourballs and 440-yard doglegged holes with water up the left-hand side. Rye stands for steel shafts, foursomes and playing the ball as it lies. It is all the

A second harbinger is the rituals well-known to any golfing traveller — the zipping up of the golf bag in a coverall, the riffling of a passport's pages, the taxi at the door ready to leave for the airport. It is, in short, time for professional golfers to get back to work. By now, Europe's best have their schedules pencilled in from January to November.

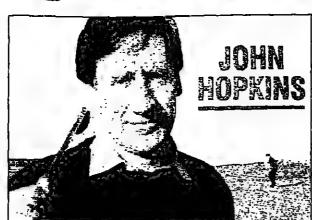
There are more than 40 events on the European Tour. No one can play them all, al-though, by competing on other continents as well. Andrew Chandler played 42 events in 1986 and thereby won the "Iron Man" award. By the year's end, Colin Montgomerie will have played approxi-mately 30 events worldwide, as will Ian Woosnam and Dar-ren Clarke, while for some of the lesser professionals it may be nearer 40. But which ones. in which country, on which

It is sometimes easier to select a club for a shot of 150 yards downhill and downwind to a green

that falls awa than it is to pick out precisely the tournaments in which a player will stand the best chance of a

der Cup points and of improving his position in the world rankings - so important now that the top 60 players are being elevated to golf's premier division. "Tan's schedule is the one constant topic of conversation at every formal meeting we have." Andrew Hampel, Woosnam's manager, said.

The criteria are: the major championships, which fall in April, June. July and August, and providing the best buildup for these events. This year, there is also the Ryder Cup in September and the three inaugural, hugely lucrative World Golf Championship tournaments, in the United States, in February and August, and in Spain, in November. Some men want to get properly fotwo or three weeks immediate-



rarely more. The exception is Lee Westwood, who won his first tournament in Europe in his eighteenth consecutive

Golfers have favoured and less-favoured months. Greg Norman and February do not chime perfectly after Norman withdrew from an event in that month after 54 holes last year. On the other hand, it is impossible to remove Nick Faldo from golf courses in July. the month in which both he and his mother were born, in which he took delivery of his first clubs and won his English Amateur title, among oth-er personal landmarks. With portents such as these, it was nevitable that Faldo should have won three Open Championships - in July.

Then there is Westwood and November in the Far East. Days of continuous water torture would not persuade Chan-

remember that golf

leads to everything else?

dler, Westwood's manager, to

allow his star player to com-

pete anywhere other than Ja-

pan in the eleventh month of the year, because there West-

wood has won the same tour-

nament in each of the past

three years and last November

This was the season that

young Stephen Gallacher has

been waiting for after return-

ing to full fitness from a back

injury and turning in some

won £360,000 in two weeks.

"It means the difference between being home at eight o'dock on a Sunday night and having a nice day on Monday or getting home at midday on Monday." Chan-dler said. "Believe me, in the The key for players is to

with types of courses. Many of

them love links courses and all

of them love tournaments

from which they can return on

Sunday night. This is not easy

if every connecting flight goes

through Heathrow, it was im-

possible for Neil Coles, who re-

fused to fly anywhere.

To solve this problem, Sam

Torrance moved down from

Largs in Ayrshire to Sun-

ningdale and Clarke moved

from Ulster. Woosnam bought

bis own plane to speed him

back to Jersey, thereby joining

Jack Nicklaus and Norman as

an aircraft owner. This year,

for the first time. Westwood

will fly privately to and from tournaments in Europe, as Col-

in Montgomerie has done for

ll-month season. hours mean a lot — perhaps an extra. 20 or 30 nights at home.

It is part of why Lee remains in Europe."
Paul Theroux wrote that "extensive travelling induces a feeling of encapsulation, and travel, so broadening at first, contracts the mind". But it doesn't half expand the bank balance. Yet money, apparently, is never a factor. "If a player is contemplating travelling

halfway around the world to

collect money, then he is better

off staying where he is." Ham-

good performances on the pel said. "The key is to remem-Challenge Tour in 1998. "Not so fast," Mark Sharman, his ber that golf leads to everything else. manager, said. "A long flight Yet even for the busiest playto Australia at the end of the month (acing Australians who are acclimatised is not ideal. You might get a lot of money, but you could risk your in-

er in the busiest of years, there is one date that is immovable. For Westwood, it fell on Saturday, when he married Laurae Coltart in Worksop. That was one date in his schedule that was sacrosanct.

Duval closes in on victory

jured back. Better to start in

Dubai early in February."

DAVID DUVAL ended the day as he had started it - with a five-stroke lead - after the third round of the Mercedes Championship in Hawaii, on Saturday.

Duval, of the United States. closed in on his eighth victory in his past 27 tournaments on the US PGA Tour by carding a five-under-par 68 on the Kapalua Resort's Plantation course. His round included six birdies and one bogey. The only blemish came at the par-four loth. where he drove into a fairway bunker, missed a 10ft putt for par and thereby ended a stretch of 44 consecutive holes

without a bogey.

He leads Fred Funk, his countryman, who also shot a 68. Billy Mayfair, who carded a 69, is a further stroke behind. Tiger Woods excited the gallery with six birdies for a flawless 67, but it was only

TODAY

RUGBY UNION

AIB LEAGUE: Second division: 304/103

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

FA CUP: Third-round replays: Barrow, s Sympoon (7.45), Notic County v Shafelo Und (7.45), Years v Cardiff (7.45)

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHIELD: North

Siche (* 45) SCOTTISH LEAGUÉ: First division: Marri-FOR V. Cydebark (* 45) Third division: Bernic, / Montrose (* 30) Coordenbeath v. Brachin (* 70) Ocean's Park v Sternouse-mus (* 70) Second division: Fortar v. Cyds (* 70). L'angsion v East Pile (* 30)

RUGBY UNION

SWALEC CUP: Fourth round: Group B. Cross Koys v Durwant (7 30); Group L. Lan-dover, v Cardill (7 30);

WEDNESDAY

PUOTHALL

FA CUP: Third-round michigs: Futuini v Southampton (7,45), Leeds v Rushden and

tion: Second round: Hartispoe: .
Darington v Chesterfield (7.45)
Scarbosough (7.45), Rochdale v

Challenge Trophy

Neath y Natal Wildebees! (7 G)

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

enough to move him into a tie for fourth, with Jim Furyk and Vijay Singh, seven strokes behind Duval.

Anytime you can make five or six birdies in a round, you can't complain." Duval said.



Duval: confident

Diamondo (145), Swarcea i West Hym (145)

RUGBY UNION

WELSH CHALLENGE TROPHY: Pool A: Caettraly . Edinburgh Rendra (7-15) Pool 8: Budgerd / Gwagow Coloromena

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: New-castin Eagues & Mann No. net, Licins (7.0) Uni-ball Trophy: Group A: Pranso Veley Lights & Lederge: Rolans (6.9)

THURSDAY

BASKETBALL: Butwelser League: Gi-Ria London Leopards v Derby Storm (7.3))

Card* Devis / Naturgnam Partners

FRIDAY

FOOTBALL

MATIONWINE LEAGUE: Second distinction Controller | Interest (7.45) Third division: Obster / Bestron (7.45)

RUGBY UNION

"I'm obviously playing quite well, so poor shots or mishits never really enter your mind. The confidence just feeds on itself."

Funk, who has made just one hogey in \$4 holes, acknowledged that his chances of overtaking Duval in the final round were slim and paid tribuse to the leader.

Right now, there's no question he [Duval] is the best in the world. He's just going to beat you with pure talent." Funk said. "He doesn't get overly excited about a bad hole hecause he knows he's going to have a lot more good ones." Kenny Druce, of Australia. claimed his first Australasian PGA Tour victory in the Victorian Open yesterday. The 26-year-old shot a final round 74 to finish 13-under par and beat Lucas Parsons, his compatriot, by three shots.

Even so, he had to hole a

old days at Rye, when watering of greens was far less scientific than it is now, such a shot would have been all but impossīble.

spectator, he pulled his secand shot into some lurking gorse bushes. This was the moment when any real hope of a comeback disappeared. though he did birdie the 12th

the last eight.

petition was to win a place in

the final came at the 10th.

when, half-distracted by a

His only really bad shot in

after hitting a glorious iron to On the 14th, Bisson pushed his tee shot up a bank. Dale's crisp four-iron to the heart of the green seemed to be that of a man intent on winning. That put him four holes up and a half in five on the 15th, a long hole played from the new back tee, brought the end, with Dale needing three

pars to be round in 68. There is genuine concern. among the elders of the Oxford and Cambridge Golfing Society that this charming event may be losing a little of its appeal. A final such as yesterday's is all that was necessary to remind everyone that this competition has produced some outstanding golf and golfers in years gone by

and should continue to do so. If there is a diminution of interest in one of the more unusual, and enjoyable, amateur events on the calendar. then perhaps it lies more in the eyes of the beholder than in the competition itself.

SAILING

Clipper 2000 awarded to Portsmouth

By Edward Gorman, sailing correspondent

THE Times Clipper 2000 round-the world race for paying amateurs is to start and finish in Portsmouth, Sir Robin Know-Johnston, the chairman of Clipper Ventures and the race director, will announce today at the London International Boat Show.

The race, which will feature up to 12 identical 60ft yachts will set off from Cunwharf Quays in Portsmouth Harbour on October 14, 2000, returning approximately ten months later after a 34,000 mile voyage and at least 12 stops in places as var-ied as Havana and Hawaii.

Sir Robin's first two Clipper races, including Clipper 98, which is on its way from the Galapagos Islands to Hawaii, have both started from Plymouth. However, after reviewing the options, Sir Robin de-cided that Portsmouth would be a more attractive option.

"Without wishing to sound disparaging about Plymouth, we felt that Portsmouth had offered a package and support for the race that was unequalled by any other port," Sir Robin said. "Of particular attraction are the substantial improvements to yachting services and spectator facilities in

es and speciator factities in Portsmouth Harbour pro-posed over the next few years."

The David Pedrick-de-signed Clipper yachts will be berthed at two former Minis-try of Defence sites at Gunwharf Quays on the water-front and at the Royal Clarence Yard in Gosport, which is being redeveloped into a dedicated world-class yachting events centre.

Portsmouth Harbour Events, an independent consortium, has been set up to organise a programme of shoreside activities leading up to the start and finish of the race and both the Berkeley Group, which is developing the £100 million

Gunwharf Quays area, and Portsmouth City Council ar members of the consortium.

The Times Clipper 2000 will follow the proven format of previous races, charting a course round the middle latitudes of the world. The race will comprise six legs and will be decided by accumulated points per leg as the crews, led by professional skippers, make their way round the

The boats will each be sponsored by British towns or cit-ies, which, possibly in conjunction with local businesses or individuals, will pay £100,000 to secure the name of the boat. This week at the Boat Show, representatives will attend briefings by Sir Robin and senior executives of Times Newspapers. Among those places to

be represented are Glasg Ipswich, Blackpool, Oxford, Leicester, Belfast, Bristol, Northampton, Guernsey, Jer-sey and Portsmouth itself. Patrick Sherriff, the marketing director of Times Newspapers, said that the aim of the briefings was to help the cities get a feel for how Clipper '98 is going and explain what the 2000 event can offer in terms of advertising and commercial

FONTWELL PA

opportunities.
We want to help them realise the potential that the combi-nation of The Times and Clipper can offer them," he said.
"It will be a great promotional opportunity for the cities, but also a competitive and compelling sporting platform from which to take on their rivals across the country."

HOCKEY

survive big scare

By Sydney Friskin

MARK PEARN pulled Reading out of a tight corner in the preliminary round of the indoor club championiship yesterday with a brilliant sequence of four goals in a 6-3 victory over Old Loughtonians in a vital pool B match. The result assured Reading, the holders, of their place in finals night at Crystal Palace on

February 5. By the end of play on Saturday, Reading were in crisis. A 6-5 defeat by Southgate and a 5-5 draw against Norton caused panic that was somewhat allayed by the 10-3 defeat of Firebrands, to which Pearn contributed three goals. Four more goals by Pearn laid the foundation for a 7-4 victory over Loughborough Students yesterday morning - a success that enabled Reading to face Old Loughtonians with renewed confidence. .

Old Loughtonians, however, finished on top of the pool having won all of their four earlier matches, Jennings scoring three of their goals in the 9-7 victory over Southgate. who themselves qualified for finals night - at the expense of Loughborough on goal difference - after trouncing Firebrands 11-2.

There was less tension in pool A, which was reduced to five teams after the withdrawal of West London Institute of Higher Education. East Grinstead, the runners-up last year, won all four of their matches and will be joined at Crystal Palace by Barford Tigers and Hull. The best of the skirmishes here was the match between East Grinstead and Barford, which East Grinstead won 4-2 Mills scored twice for East-Grinstead, with Mahmood Bhatti and Byfield adding to the score. Amarjit Degun and Jimmy Singh were on target for Barford.

Loughborough were scheduled to switch outside and play away at Bowdon in the fourth round of the EHA Cup yesterday, but the tie was postponed - for a second time - because of a frozen pitch. Cannock, the holders, had linle difficulty in defeating Harrogate 6-0 a day earlier to set up a fifth-round home match against Old Georgians on Sunday. Crutchley scored twice with Sharpe, Edwards, Parnham and Terrett adding

further goals.

Reading Holwell marks

By Cathy Harris

THE rearranged EHA Women's Cup fourth-round ties were hit by another spell of icy weather, with only Clifton, the holders, and Leicester booking their places in the next round. For Slough and Hightown, both former winners, it will have to be a case of third time lucky.

The prospect of a second day of heavy frost on the pitch at Blackburn saw Slough's tie against the non-league club postponed for a second time. Sue Chandler, the Slough captain, said that her team was reluctant to make another futile journey up the motorway and was happy when it was postponed on Saturday evening. She said that they would probably play the fixture on February 7, the day after a league match away to Hightown.

On Merseyside, Hightown made two abortive attempts to play Sherwood. After play was called off at the original venue, Formby, because of trosty pitch, the teams moved to the Northern Club in Crosby, where play was possible until minutes into the second half, when the surface was deemed to be too dangerous to continue.

A spokesman for Hightown said that the clubs had agreed to replay the game on February 7 at a neutral venue, probably in Cheshire, to avoid Sherwood having to travel a long distance yet again.

Further south, Sue Holwell. the former England and Great Britain defender, celebrated her return to the Leicester squad when she scored a hattrick of penalty corner goals to steer them to a 5-l win against Sheffield. Justine Williams scored one in each half, with Sue Canton scoring in the 47th minute for Sheffield with their only corner of the match.

There were few problems for Clifton, who saw off Dulwich's challenge by a similar margin. Missing Tammy Miller, their captain, who is injured, and Claire Burr and Lucy Newcombe, who were unavailable, Clifton took the lead through Juliet Rayden in the sixth minute. Denise Marston-Smith and Isabel Palmer scored a brace apiece to complete the scoreline, with Louise Parker adding a last-1 minute consolation goal.

Results, page 39

Putter winner delights with quality iron play the final was an achievement CHRIS DALE ended the du-By JOHN HOPKINS opoly of Charlie Rotheroe and for someone whose previous **GOLF CORRESPONDENT** best achievement in this com-

Dale, an outstanding winner of the President's Putter, punches an iron out of wispy rough to the green at the 9th during his 4 and 3 win over the left-handed Brisson

Neil Pabari, the gifted players who have dominated the President's Putter at Rye for the past three years, by winning it for the first time yesterday with a display of golf such as has not been seen in this event

for many years. Dale, who is a stockbroker in London, defeated Richard Bisson, a member of Rye and one of the few left-handers to have reached the final, by 4

Not many amateurs could have withstood Dale, a past captain of Cambridge, whose

play for much of yesterday was almost as good it could have been. He has a firm, controlled swing, hits his irons crisply and, on the evidence of vesterday, puris beautifully. In the morning semi-final.

when he defeated Pabari, the holder, on the last green, he was round in an approximate Significantly, however,
 Dale played markedly better after turning for home, taking only 35 strokes to play his inward half.

"I was very nervous on the front nine against Neil," Dale said. "I was aware of how good he was and his reputation, but then I relaxed and began to play better and, by the end. I was feeling very confi-

12-footer on the 18th to beat Pabari and win the right to play

The muse then remained with Dale, 28, who plays off three at Walton Heath. He was out in 33 on a bitingly cold afternoon and was three up. Two strokes stand out in the memory — his second to the 4th, which ended close enough for him to birdie the hole, and his second to the 9th, played from wispy right

RESULTS

RESULTS: Saturday: Fifth round: S
Bernatt (C) to J Burdek (O) 5 and 4; R
Bisson (O) to M Benka (O) 2 and 1; J
Hudson (C) to J Alash (O) 1 and 1; J
Hudson (C) to J Alash (O) 1 and 3. C
Date (C) to G MacSween (C) 4 and 3. C
Biss (C) to M Williamson (C) 5 and 4; S
Eths (C) to M Williamson (C) 5 20th C
Ristheron (O) to O Math. (C) 4 and 3: N
Palsan (C) to P Pentecost (C) 6 and 5
Quanter-finals: Bisson to Bernatt 2 and
1, Hudson to Burke at 19th Date to Elisa
1 hole, Palsan to Rotheron 2 and 1. Yesterday: Secon-finals: Bisson to Hudson
I note Date to Palsan 1 hole Finalt Date
to Bisson 4 and 3.

rough, which pulled up as if hitting buffers. He birdied that hole, too, and the ease with which he made his ball stop caused old-timers among the 100 or so spectators to reminisce that, in the

Bisson, a member of the home club and of Formby, had not done much wrong. Indeed, simply to have reached

> Riversing, (7.0) Shelfield Steelers v Lon-don Knights (7.0) SUNDAY

> > FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Charlon v NATIONAIDE LEAGUE: First division: Sundarland v losmail (1 0) SCOTTISM LEAGUE: Second division Eas: File v Queen of South (30) FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE CUP: Third round: Arsenal v Croydon (2.0). RUGBY UNION

ALLED DUNBAR PREMERSHIP: Second division: Blackheath v Wordstell (3 0), Locals v Fylde (2 30). WELSH CHALLENGE TROPHY: Pool A: Neath v Georgia (2 30) Pool B: Llandill v Gauleng Falcons (2 30) OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Reebox Cardill Cross Chair BASKETBALL: Butwelser Languer Dresher Jeta v Thames Valley Tigers (5-30): Edinburgh Rocks v Newcastle Eagles (5-0): Malon Keynes Lions v Berringham Bulletin (4-0): Sheffield Sharks v London Towers (4-0):

ICE HOCKEY: Sekonde Superleaguet Brachnell Bees v London Knights (6 0), Manchester Storm v Cardiff Devils (5 0)

GUIDE TO THE WEEK AHEAD

SATURDAY FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Chooses a Chemin Certs, Blackburn Leads Vid diesbruigh Leaders a Mancheder und Chempent Stehanbron Not nobert Strict a Arcting Tethanbron Vid Hardenin West Ham Stehenblich Androppes NATIONWIDE LEAGUE: First div

Furniss Challe States, Storpert Griman by Johnston Store Ar When Bernarch Port Jam v Swindom Ferramouth shade pented Sheffind Utd. v Botten Worker hampton. Martin Second General Destinated Gillington. Visit Marcies feed. Stoke Marchester Co. v Festion Northampton v March Gildham v Sac-pool Paston v Lidon Reading. Bit Sc Rowes, Wegan v Lincoln Mysember 187. auth Third Gildham Services v March aul Third divisions Brenther 2 Hacks.
Canada v Sountherpe Chestra v Brighter
Barlington Hühr Harn good s Barra Harngorduum v Cardilli Phymouth s Mattaferd
Botherham Lepho Chiem Southertung v
Better Shremstoff v Southerd Southers
Cambridge Und Yonguy v Forsholds POOTBALL CONFERENCE: BWCD

BEDDTISH LEAGUE Feet distalant Ay y Arthre Clydebank y St Mation Faikts -Genendok Aforton Hibernan - Harviton

Stratton - Rath Second division: Alban V Limitation Order interness CT - Roda v Limitation CT - Roda v Line Second - Third division: Advisor - Control Control - Second - Control - Second - Control - Second - Control - Second - Control -RUGBY LINION

6 to 100 20 where 1888

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERCHIP Find division: Eath / Newbasto (3-0), Sectord v Earlies Schoeler, Refinance 415 Harmonies - Normanister (3-0), Levester Langon, Section (3-0), London limb v For ternism - Covenity (2 15) Rugot / Eve

JEWSON NATIONAL LEAGUE: First divi-

WELSH CHALLENGE TROPHY: Pool A:

Portypieds - Natal Wildeberry **Pool B:** Ephy Vale - Blue Bufs . . .

Pomygrod C (Fall Wilderen Pool is Pobly Vide is Bas Brife division: Some and Some Brife division: Someone J Tronchy Cross Keys (Dumant Morthy) & Roserton Northaday / Blackwood, Riemney & Cardonsey South Wales Option & Portigod Tordio & Maester UMIC + Terdaga Tennients - Vetvet - Philippia Tennients - Vetvet - Philippia Courty 20 (Jedforest - Someone Courty - College Court - Someone Courty - College Courty - Killing & Roser - Control y Research Control - Control - Vetrag Bunster Cork Constitution y Buscanoes Gathergan's Ballymena Shanys - Bacterio College Tensione S. Marys - Bacterio College S. Marys - Bacterio Co

DIHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budweber League: Bi-mangham Bullato v Chester Jets (17 de Leaguete Ridert v Derty Storm (7 30): Lon-don Towers v Northing Bears (7 30): Man-chester Gasts, v Stoffeld Sharks (7 de Phannes Valey Tigets v Grearer London Loopards (8 d).

مكذامن ريامل

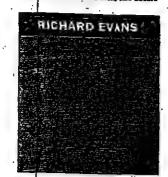
SAILING

RACING: FIRST-SEASON TRAINER KEEPS CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL OPTIONS OPEN FOR SMART HURDLER

Behrajan helps Daly deliver early success

THE cry of most first-season trainers is invarably akin to that of Richard II when he uttend the immortal line about swipping his kirgdom for a deent nag. Henry Daly is a

forunate exception to the rule. When he took over from Capain Tim Forster at Down-ton I all Stables in Shropshire last summer, not only did he inhait an enviable collection of ploven and promising chasers along with a group of loy-al orners, he also had an unex-



pecid bonus in the shape of a propise made a dozen years

In the mid-1980s, Daly and Simn Marsh, now racing manager to the Lloyd Webbers were working in Lexing-ton he heart of the American biolistock industry, and, after a particularly enjoyable din-ne. Marsh promised that if Dir's ambition to become a truer materialised be would getogether a group of friends

arl send him a horse. 1 a drinks party during By RICHARD EVANS, RACING CORRESPONDENT

Royal Ascot last summer, Marsh bumped into Daly. who had just announced he was taking over from Forster, and the promise of yesteryear was put into action.

The result was that Anthony Bromley, right-hand man to David Minton at the British Bloodstock Agency, bought an Aga Khan cast-off, by Arazi out of a Mill Reef mare. The highlight of his Flat career had been to get within 13 lengths of Sagamix, subsequent winner of the Arc, over a mile and a half in France.

The purchase price was EI0,000, shared by a decidedly upmarket syndicate of owners consisting of Johnny Weatherby, chairman of Weatherbys and a trustee of Ascot. Lady Lloyd Webber, Mark Wiggin, owner of Downton Hall, and Rupert, his younger brother, and Jeremy Graham, along with Marsh and Daly. Behrajan offered no early in-

THE meeting at Leicester

tomorrow hinges on a 3pm inspection today, although course officials described the

meeting as having a "fighting. chance" of going ahead.

parts of the hurdle track water-

logged, but the head grounds-

man, Jimmy Stevenson, said:

Recent heavy rain has left

dications of great talent and when he went to Warwick for his hurdling debut three weeks ago. Daly would have been delighted if he had finished in the first six. Not surprisingly, he went unbacked

that day — and duly whistled in by 14 lengths at 20-1. Next stop was Sandown on Saturday, where the four-yearold was entered for two races: a competitive juvenile hurdle and the high-class Tolworth Hurdle in which Hidebound would be a strongly fancied short-priced favourite.

Daly opted for the laner, in which his runner would receive a handy weight allowance, and, in keeping with the Forster school of pessimism. thought at best he would pick up some useful place money. This time the winning distance was 16 lengths and a starting price of 9-2. Daly, 32, spent time with Paul Cole and Kim Bailey be-

logged in places but it has improved slightly."

Fakenham today looks set to

beat the weather despite a frost on Saturday. David Hunter, clerk of the course, said. "I'm pretty confident we will be OK." Prospects for Fontwell

were described as "very good"

by the track's chief executive.

(£3,526: 3m 2f 110yd) (6 runners)

then decide. But it is a nice problem to have." Leicester card in doubt

What may not prove so easy will be gauging the reaction of his great mentor to having a leading fancy for a hurdle race in the yard. The Captain, a chasing man through and through, regarded hurdling as

fore joining Forster in 1991 and is a trainer with a big future. After not rushing his borses

early in the season, his pa-

tience is paying dividends and

winners are flowing. Behrajan is 10-1 second fa-vourite for the Triumph Hur-

dle, but Daly said yesterday:

"He doesn't really give the im-

pression of being a Triumph

type. He's a huge horse, about 16.3. I might enter him for the Triumph, the Supreme Nov-

ices' and the SunAlliance and

Tony McCoy was banned for six days (January 18-23 inclu-sive) after falling fool of the

whip rules again at Sandown on Saturday. He was found to have hit Endipe below the quarters as he drove him to a

length defeat of Glitter Isle in

the Mildmay, Cazalet Chase. McCoy was suspended for

two days, but a deferred fourday ban was also triggered.

a necessary evil.

I would not have thought that when he handed the licence over to me, having the second favourite for the Triumph would have been at the top of his list," Daly said.



Behrajan on the way to victory at Sandown on Saturday

Archive Footage shrugs off weight of history

BY OUR IRISH RACING CORRESPONDENT

ARCHIVE FOOTAGE, sent off at 25-1, gave jockey David Evans ample compensation for missing out on last year's Ladbroke winner, Graphic Equaliser, when taking the big race on Saturday in a finish dominated by outsiders.

His weight-carrying per-formance equalled that of Barnbrook Again, who also won under ilst 8lb, and he finished nine lengths clear of the 40-1 shot Daraheen Chief. with Its Time For A Win (25-1) four lengths third.

It was the biggest success for Evans, 30, who was riding just the 56th winner of his career. Last season he lost out when Graphic Equaliser was switched from Frank Lacy's yard to Arthur Moore's, but this time luck was with him.

Dermot Weld, the trainer of Archive Footage, said: "Tony McCoy was to ride but found out on Tuesday that he couldn't. I'm delighted for David, who is a great worker and

team player."
Weld, who saddled Archive
Footage's dam, Trusted Partner, to win the 1988 Irish 1.000 Guineas, rated his runner no forlorn hope despite the price. "I think I said he would run in the first four but when the weights went up I was more hopeful than confident," Weld added. He now plans to tackle the County Hurdle at Chelten-

Evans said: "He was always travelling well. Coming to the third last I thought I could win because I hadn't expected to be that close three out. Usually

1.50 LIMERICK CLAIMENG STAKES (3-Y-0: 52,097: 61) (14)

2.20 WATERFORD MADEN STAKES (£2,169: 1m 4f) (8)

4 A DAY ON THE DUB 62J D Edgs 6-8-3 R FitzPatrick (5) 1
BELISARIO BBJ IX Gratum 5-9-3 A Clark 6
DOD DURSTON DURSON 24 N Literated 5-9-3 J Tate 5
D2-5 DIDECT ALLEN B T Centers 4-8-13 T WESTING
DOG- RITINAL RIVE 152 Ron Thompson 4-8-13 R Cochrane 4
D0-2 BLILE HOPPER 7 N Duter 6-9-13 Rive Joyce (7) 7
DOD RING THE RAFTERS 24 (V) 8 Baugh 4-8-8 Date Gloson 8

2.50 CORAL HANDICAP [SHOWCARE RACE AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACEI (£7,133: 1m 3f) (16)

FOTE TRIPECTA RACE] (£7,133: 1m 3i) (16)

601 (200 PLZZ_EMENT 80 [5] C Britalo 5-9-13 ... R Cochrane 7

602 33-0 FIRST MASTER 9 [5] Mass 6 Relieury 4-0-12 P Productos (7) 15

603 002 SMART BOY 1-4, (8,7) M Bioloy 3-8-1 ... P McCabe 1

604 005 CHRN (CASTLE 56 (CD) P Resign 6-8-8 ... M Tebbert 4

605 305 FIROPICAL BEACH 33 (VF, 6.5) J Pence 6-9-7. G Bardwar 14

606 500 MDORRAKING 5.1 (8,CD) 1 Ethic Ington 5-9-3 ... Date Cibson 6

607 005 DURCHAN 16 (C) 2 Relicio 5-9-3 ... T Syrado 2

608 462- PICICIONS 24 (CD) P Enrico Inc. 9 7-9-2 ... Kim Tinder 5

609 005 DIRCHAN 18 (C) 2 Relicio 16-9-3 ... J Tate 11

611 650- KIM PRIAM 13 (R, 6) M Professe 4-8-10 ... R Price 9

612 201- RIVER CAPTLAN 201 (CD) D Murray Smith 6-8-0 C Lowifer 13

613 50-3 SLEP JIS 10 (8,S) K Burte 6-8-6 ... D Sweeney 10

614 641- CHLIDBER'S CHANCE 371 (VF, 6.S) D Monts 8-8-8 F Norton 3

615 25-3 EVEZIO PILIFO 6 (KB-COS) N Lomoden 7-7-10 R Thomas (7) 16

614 Thekymant, 5-1 China Castle, Costat be Money, 6-1 Pickens, 10-1 Tropical

11-4 Theleyeurit, 5-1 China Castle, Count De Money, 6-1 Pickens, 10-1 Tropical Beach, 12-1 Moonraiding, 14-1 Children's Choice, Puzziement, 16-1 others.

3.20 KERRY SELLING STAKES (3-Y-0: £1,872; 1m) (6)

11-6 Golden Syrup, 3-1 Burtons Folly, 9-2 La Tavemetta, 7-1 others.

I'm sitting in the jockey's room having finished fifth or sixth and saying I've run a blinder." Polar Prospect finished best of the three British-trained runners in fifth, with Sadler's Realm, also trained by Philip Hobbs, eleventh and New Inn. trained by Steve Gollings, last

BIG-RACE DETAILS

of the 24 finishers. The favour-

ites never figured. Impulsive

1.45 PIERSE LEOPARDSTOWN HANDICAP CHASE (£22,750 3m)

HOLLYBANK BUCK ,N WINGENSON T P Rudd, 12-1 Rymane (4m), Wylde Hide, 4-1 ji-lauri 14 ran V 121, A J Martin in Instanti Tote 65.70 £1 90, £3 50, £4 10 DF £41 60 CSF £80.76 Tricast, £922 68 Trio £248 30

£20 THE LITTH LADBRICKS [Handscap hurdle £48,975, 2m] 1, ARCHIVE FOOTAGE DIT Evans. 25-1 2, Deraheen Chief Mr J McNamara. 40-1 3, its Time For A Win ...G. Cotter. 25-1

A Palette
Advocat, Impulsive Dream 8-1 g-fairs 25 ran 9: 41, hd D K Weld in Impland Toto. 246 30, E7 80, E7 60, E7 50, E4 50 DF 23.02.30 goad out on 13 and 3rd) Tridenta E5737.20 (0.34 winning lickets. Pool of £5172 03 carried lorward to 2 50 South-relificately CSF E723 90. Tricest £20,192 08

Dream finished towards the rear, as did Advocat, whose rider, Paul Carberry, said:

The ground was too sticky."
The Midlands National at Uttoxeter is now an option for Hollybank Buck, who won a gruelling Pierse Leopardstown Handicap Chase under a fine ride from Norman Williamson. The Tony Martintrained gelding overhauled Roundwood by half a length.

The hurdles course is water-1.0 Damp Course 2.30 Dancetillyoudrop 3.00 Shahrur 1.0 Bright Flame 2.0 Indian Tracker Timkeeper's top rating: 2.00 SKIPCARL

1.10 JESP NATIONAL HUNT NOVICES HURDLE (£3,06 2m 2f 110yd) (15 runners)

HOMBIE OF FER 18 G-R) (Miss M Venestagnico) K Ballay 7-12-3; Mr R Forristal C3 (1998)
CALDMARS 293 (P Vermick) Mrs M Janes 7-11-8
T J Marphy —
CAMBER ROMA 19 (Caddratour Facing Lift) Miss S Formula 6-11-5
L Aspell
DAMP COURSE 23 (S M Powell N Traction-Davies 3-11-15
C Limenshy 79
EDITORSU 410 (Mrs P Couper) R Rome 7-11-5
L RIGHT AND CAMBER S G (Caddratour Fines) (D Servinod 6-11-5
J Octorna
LOME SHARPER 81 (Agents All Odds Ratmestrip) R Brotter 6-11-5
B Powell 64 BETTREE: 6-Homma De Fer, 6-1 Ekraidis, 7-1 Damp Cousse, 8-1 Carndon Road, Larius Acrehia, Laok Sterper, 16-Haladiar, 20-1 laters, 1998: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

DAR COURSE can crake the most of the 12th he receives from Hamme De Fe

1.30 FULERTOR & COLEMAN NOVICES CHASE (£2,803: 3m 1110yd) (8 runners) - ;

BETTING: 5-4 Strongs, 11-8 Dram Banks, 10-1 Bally Line; 14-1 Bright Flame, 18-1 Royal Tenany, Decaricity Country, 25-1 Forestingarang, 66-1 Bayeya.

1998: KELMONSTON 9-11-9 P Hade (3-1) J Seford 10 res Durss Bettle best Spring Saint & in 8-creates creates others at Hereford (3m 11 110pt), good) with Haryal Tomony (8th better off) pulled op. Bright Same of 17 fro of 14 in card Reviets at hereford better of 15 pulled op. Bright Same of 17 fro of 14 in card Reviets at hereford better of 15 pulled op. Bright Same of 15 from 15

2.00 DOCKERHUGHES MEMORIAL CHALLENGE TROPHY NOVICES HIJFIDLE (\$2,548: m & 110yo) (12 numers)

1998: BRIET FLAME 6-17-6 L Aspell (20-1) Miss S Edwards 41 ran Jiso: Bright FLANE 0-11-6 L region (20-1) reces 5 commiss 1 pain.

Jiso Jam Jory best Fine Arthurts 5 in 10-tensor covice hardle of Formeth Com 61-100y, besty) with Flamenopo (7% better off) policid up. Sidecom best formeth fine 4 in 11-tensor mines to the burdle of control of 6 in off 10 pain fine 4 in 11-tensor mines to the burdle of control of 6 in of 9 to Lyreen Woods in burdle of a tensor (2m 14 pain 11 pa

COURSE SPECIALISTS %. 48.1 27.0 25.0 25.0 22.2 22.2 X Aizpuru J Osborne A McCoy T J Murphy A Dozmoody G Supple P Nicholis M Pige A Buckles P Rhehers D Gandolik D Wallems

2.30 wintersgill ϵ faulkner handicap chase

Law-U-Frank patiet up in cines at Sandoun (2m 110/d. pood); provi beaten a distance 7th of 12 to Paparticing in reprice handscap chose in (2m 1), provide, Mazzaro basten a distance this of 12 to Debtes bit is with Jaranusic Cleanist (1) to takes all public up. Jaranusic Cleanist (2 to debtes bit si with Jaranusic Cleanist (1) to takes all public up. Jaranusic Cleanist (2 to debtes at Fortier it is the same as a Provinging (2m 11 110/g), heavy, Essatorpus 28 16th of 16 to Land (7 the West in has names (3m 21, good). Danostili produce politic in in handscap chase at Ender (2m 7 11 lossy) 72 and of 5 to Kanneste is to handscap chase at Plumpice (3m 11 10/d, heavy). TUAR-U-FRANK, propressive that service, can become back after a disappointing responsable

3.00 WEST SUSSEX HANDICAP HURDLE (£5,917; 2m 2t 110yd) (8 runners)

1982 NO CORRESPONDED RACE

Distants pulses up in transform hards at luteration (Cro., 2010, previous)

211 tim of 10 to Mebre Marcete in handloop lumin in December (Cro. 4 10 to Mebre Marcete in handloop lumin in December (Cro. 4 10 to Mebre Marcete) in the Cro. 4 10 to Mebre Marcete in Large Research (Cro. 3 11 to Mebre Marcete) in the Cro. 4 10 to Mebre Marcete in Mebre Marcete Marcete Marcete in Mebre Marcete Marce SHAHRIR shaped as though returning to loc best at Kampine and its our to ou well

3.30 M BOWEN CONSTRUCTION MAIDEN CHASE

MERRY SHOT is best of those with experience over tences

4.00 WEATHERBYS STARS OF TOMORROW NATIONAL HURT FLAT RACE (£1,814: 2m 2f 110yd) (18 runners)



THE HALL HAS MOVED one come and frest in a west contest

ELBOCHEO PRIST TIME: Felorihems 1 40 Manor Meo. Footwell Parts 1 30 Forever Dreaming, Royal Tommy 2 30 Lux-U-Frank Southwell 12,60 E B Treasure 1,20 Shortland 15,60 E B Treasure 1,20 Shortland 15,60 E B Treasure 1,20 Shortland 15,60 E B Treasure 1,20 Shortland 1,20 Shortland

DI GRISSELL, the Sussextrainer, and rider Paul Hacking teamed up for a louble when the new season started at Cottenhim in Cambridgeshire yesterdal.

es took thee of the four maiden King.

Grissell lands double

POINT-TO-POINT BY CARL EVANS

gamely b beat local champion
Shake Fire in the Men's Open, then Grisell and Hacking took the intermediate with Real

Value.

In a good day for long-distance travellers, Yorkshire hors
tance travellers, Yorkshire hors
To be at local champion

Clive Mulhall, Harbour Blaze

partnered by Ruth Clark and Forster since he relinquished this licence. Anubis Quercus was in front, although tiring, when falling two out, completing a disappointing day for travellers, Yorkshire hors
vision for local trainer Neil

King favourité, Roberty Lea, beaten

Around The Horn stayed on races. Triple Eaves under This race featured a first rungamely beat local champion Clive Mulhall, Harbour Blaze ner in a point-to-point for Tim

in the ladies' race by Larry's Lord. Pip Jones guiled up Bold Boss in this race.

A cold but bright day began with several shades of Teeton Mill in evidence. A grey horse by Neltino and trained by Caroline Bailey echoed memoties of the time when Tecton Mill graced this sport - on this occasion the horse was The Auctioneer and under the local champion. Lisa Rowe, the nine-year-old backed up in the day's fastest time.

SOUTHWELL

12.20 High Noon, 12.50 Oxbane, 1.20 Pleasure Trick, 1.50 Westside Flyer, 2.20 Belisario, 2.50 Count De Money, 3.20 Golden Syrup, 3.50 Live

GOING: STANDARD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

12.20 TIPPERARY APPRENTICES HANDICAP (Div I; £1,658: 1m) (16 runners)

101 B20 HOM MANGATOR 20 D Franch Davig 4-10-0 _P Cleary (5) 11
102 000 HOREST ROBIN 23 DD Franch Davig 4-10-0 _P Cleary (5) 11
103 500 LIDRY MYST 83 C Britain 44-5 _ M Issue (7) 8
104 05-5 KINGCARP BDY R (V.DD.FG) M Ryan (D-9-5 _ M Issue (7) 8
105 41-3 HIGH MOON 6 (65-0) N Limnoden 49-4 _ M Townes (5) 12
106 420 - GINNET MORNES 21 (8) C Booth 4-1 _ David O'Hold (5) 8
107 D35 DANKA 24 K Committed 5-5 12 _ M Issue (7) Homeston (7) 10
108 352 - AMPROUR 33 M HOMPSTON 5-11 _ P M Committed (7) 10
109 D00 AMMRITION GRIL 24 (V.D.G.) P Earls 4-8-8 _ D Williams (7) 11
109 440 FAR-SOLJA 6 (7) MS L Medid 4-8 7 _ N Months (7) 11 119 04-0 FAR-SO-LA & (F) MS-1 Jenish 4-8-7 M Monts (7) 15
111 00- SANDIMOR DENIM 41 (20,F,E,S) 5 Bourning 12-8-4
8 Firmanch (5) 11
112 304- RING THE CHEEF 16 (C,S) M Ucher 7-8-4 G Hammon 9
113 009- DARAMAT 151 J Portman 4-8-3 P Whylef (7) 10
114 00-0 MEZZORAMO 7 (5,COLF) K Morgon 7-8-2 J Bossey (5) 3
115 00-0 JAZZY 9 J Morton 4-7-13 M MAIDEN 55 7
116 000- LINGURSTIC DANCER 77 A Newcombe 4-7-12 __C Cadin (7) 1 7-2 High Hoom, \$-1 Vangeting Boy, 8-1 Glimer Morrie, 7-1 Holh Merligator, 8-1 Formal Roble, 10-1 Danies, Adlinour, 12-1 others.

12.50 TIPPERARY APPRENTICES HANDICAP (Div lt: £1,658; 1m) (16)



1.20 WICKLOW HANDICAP (Dw I. 22,463: 71) (11)

FAKENHAM

THUNDERER

1.10 Wayfarers Way. 1.40 Country Star. 2.10 Molly Fitz Lad. 2.40 Salmon Breeze. 3.10 Tuckers

1.10 MARIE CURIE NURSES HANDICAP HURDLE

1 G-DP BALLATUR 16 (D.G.S) Mrs. J Phress 6-11-10 B Penton 85 2 40-5 BLIBRED 23 M Templore 5-11-7 C Durin 3-11-3 R Ferrion 97 3 10-14 BSTINGLOSS AND (CD.E.S. C Durin 3-11-3 R Ferrion 97 4-210 ANTIGURAN FLYER 30 (N.CD.F.S.) 6 Pressores 16-11-3 MACRIS 105 1 PRINCE OF ROMA 50 (S) N. Bairty 7-11-3 ... Macris

7 POA2 WAYFARERS WAY 20 (D.G.S) IN Headerson 8-10-12
8 13PS OUR WEATH-SECOCK 49 (D.F.S.) P Scores 2-10-7 (D Bymb 9)
9 -PA5 MEMSAHIB OFESTEEM 34 (D.G.) S Golfage 8-10-5
10 Golfagher Flori
11 2735 MEJET FRANCHES 10F (S) Let 1, Jacob 5-10-2 (D R Mantach)
12 205 MEJET FRANCHES 10F (S) Let 1, Jacob 5-10-2 (D R Mantach)
13 70-4 GHOSTHY APPARTICION 11 J Unson 6-10-10 (D S Byzery 9-10-0)
13 70-4 GHOSTHY APPARTICION 11 J Unson 6-10-10 (D S Byzery 8-10-2)
14 5034 CAPSOFF 7 (V) G HOMES 9-10-10 (D S Byzery 8-10-0)
9-2 WayGreen Way, 5-1 Prince Of India, 11-2 Kintary, 7-1 Bold King, 8-1 cibers.

1.40 MARIE CURIE HOSPICE CENTRES HANDICAP

3-4 Marror Mileo, 4-1 Inch Emperur, 5-3 Northern Seitzler, Coosily Star, 7-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

JOCKEYS, B. Forgett, 4 vergers from 13 rides, 30.6%; Chickey Begreen, 5 from 17, 29-66. All Fatymoods, 4 from 14, 28.6%, J. McCordy, 4 from 14, 28.6%.

CHASE (\$2,473: 2m 110yd) (7 numers)

Town, 3.40 Lucky Master.

(£1,833: 2m) (14 runners)

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES)

3.50 WICKLOW HANDICAP (Div II: £2,463: 71) (11)

2.10 MARIE CURIE RESEARCH NOVICES HURDLE (52,693. 2m 4f) (8 runners)

2.40 MARIE CURIE GOLDEN DAFFODIL NOVICES CHASE (£3,980: 3m 110yd) (7 runners)

1 1-LIO CEDAR SOLIARE 32 (BF.D.F.S.) V Darmal 8-11-5 B Fenton 124
2 5F13 DANEER FLYNN 25 (D.E.S.) Mc.P.S.Y 9-11-5 W Manston 118
3 B5-1 IONS ON THE RUN S. (D.E.S.) Mc.P.S.Y 9-11-5 W Manston 118
4 PHI SALMON BRIEDE 27 (D.E.S.) N Penderson 8-11-5
5 FP-P BUBBLES GALDRE 39 T D Mccastry 8-10-12 ... D Byrns 6
6 30-P ND SULP PARSON 28 Mas J Buckly 9-10-12 ... G Tormey 7
- QAA ROYAL SCARTAR 17 (S) M Tompkars 7-10-12 A Johnson 82
7-4 Ning On The Run, 9-4 Salmon Brigger, 4-1 Danger Rynn, 11-2 Others.

3.10 MARIE CURIE CANCER AWARENESS NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,348: 2m 5f 110yd) (9 runners) 1 U2-0 TAKE COVER 23 (5) M Tompkins 8-11-12 ... A Magnite - 4-104 MARDING 10 (5) J Wings 19-10-5 F. Johnson 98 3 - P24 ROSSELL BLAND 16 (BF,6) Mrs J Phrem 8-10-4 W Williamson 46 4 - P06 TUCKERS TOWN 27 R Rose 7-10-4 B Festion 98 5 - P24 PEARL'S CHOICE 25 (5) J McComnobe 11-10-2 R McGrath 95 - P25 EL CORDINES 36 (6,5) Mrs J Buckley B-10-0 E Hosband - 7 P0P0 MCH CHAMPION 32 A Caroll 7-10-0 W Marston PT22 8 3P5/ SANT BENET 565 (V.F.6) 6 Prodromou 11-10-6 Michael Bremnari -8 SPS/ SAMIT BENETT 585 (V.F.E) & PRODOROU 11-10-0
Michael Breman 9 -06P EAU BENITE 23 H Collinguidge 6-10-0 ... L Cummits (3) -4 Rossell island. 9-2 Tuckers Town, 11-2 Pearl's Choice, 6-1 others.

1 F-24 COUNTRY STAR 23 (0.F.6.5) E.L. James B-12-0 G Bradley 104
2 1F-4 THE MOOR 53 (F) M Tompkins B-11-0 A Magnare 112
3 5-26 MANOR MED 57 (B.C.F.6.5) G Prodomon 13-10-13
4 2-PH NORTHERN SMICER B (0.F.6.5) N Hordes B-10-6 G Mysens
5 4282 BICH EMPEROR 32 (0.F) A Carical 9-10-1 ... W Mariston (227)
6 -444 MORTHERN SACOLER 27 (BF.C.D.F.6.5) R Hordes
7 2-PP HISHLAND FLAME 15 (0.5) A Backmare 10-10-0 E Hestiand 100 3.40 MARIE CURIE CANCER CARE MAIDEN HUR-DLE (£2,169: 2m 7t 110yd) (11 runners)

1 3POP ABINGER 23 Miss Rowland 7-11-7 ... Gary Lyonz — 2 2P ACADEMY HOUSE 68 10 Microsity 6-11-7 ... W Mariston — 3 70-11 DAYIE'S GOLD 27 C Fineron 8-11-7 ... M Williams — 4 P DEBY 62 Miss D Hame 6-11-7 ... M A Registral 6 -284 LUCKY MASTER 37 LUcson 7-11-7 ... M A Registral 6 -284 LUCKY MASTER 37 LUcson 7-11-7 ... M A Registral 7-10-7 D-89 MARNA BRANE 27 A H Howy 5-11-7 ... R Johnson 88 9 3003 KEPAN OFFER 7 (S) Miss 1 Jevel 7-11-7 ... 6 Bradley 65 10 P- ROBERTO RIVA 365 I Williams 6-11-7 ... S Durack 7-11-7 ... A Maguite 7-11-7 11-10 Supreme Day, 5-1 Missed Call, 8-1 Lincley Master, 13-2 others.

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Sandown Park

Going phases good to soll, soil in places, hundley soll, flags on places. PLSS (2m. 1904 fixel) 1, Norsid Led (J. Tezard, 5-6 lay) 2, Black Royal (5-1), 3, Hs And Run. (7-2), 11 ran, 5h Hd. 2th P Nichols, Toler (1-80 C.10, 61 70, 61 80 DF 64 40 CSF 65 52. 65 10°C 19 (0, 172-20, DF: 12-40 CSF, 16-39 3-06 (3m 51 110)d chi 1, Eudige (A, P. McCoy, 5-1); 2, Cifner Iste (6-1); 3, Cellsone Bay (14-1) Call it A Day (4th) 7-2 lev 9 ren. 11 1/1 M Pps. Tate 55-80; 12-40, 12-20, 12-40 DF 27-00 Tritectar DI25,80 CSF 238 19 Th-cast 54-39; 13-40

3.40 (2m 61 hole) 1. Silponestia (C Mesude, 33-1), 2. Upharm Lord (3-2); 3. Ezzmek (4-1) Bowies Patrol (4th) 7-2 law 12 nm NRP I Do The Jokes, 14, 41 Simon Ezze Toke £45 50, £7-30, £2-00, £1-30 DF: £184.50 CSF £150.35 Tross£ £876 44 Jacopot; not won (pool of £12,561.12 sur-ried forward to Southwell barker).

Lingfield Park

Goling: elandard

12.50 1, Paradiare Navy (100-30), 2, Sweel
Serenata (4-1), 3, Royal Roulette (2-1 lav) 8
ten NR Eta-rie-Mou.

1.20 1, Jave Sturine (3-1 lav), 2, Banbury (9-2),
3, Tribal Peace (5-1) 13 ten NR Flame Tower
1.55 1, Erthreule (13-8 jr-lav); 2, Orl / Say (8-1),
3, Grasslandik (13-8 jr-lav); 4 ran
2.25 1, Royal Proviner (12-1); 2, Compton
Abta (11-2); 3, Bebe Cosmonaut (9-1) Dream
On Me 11-8 fay 12 ran.
3,001 Switch of The Mille (11-2); 2, Such Build. On Ms 17-8 fev 12 ran. 3.00 1, Spirit of The Nile (11-2), 2, Such Bold-ness (11-8 fev), 3, Lucky Touch (11-1), 7 ran 3.00 1, Helde of Omagh (9-2), 2, Sammys Shuffle (11-8 fev), 3, Isabelle Gonzaga (11-2) 8 ran.

Warwick

Goings soft, heavy patches 1.06 1, Flowh (14-1), C. New Bird (4-11 fav), 3. Fether Krismas (7-11 13 ran 1.35 1, Gratzly Bear (11-1), 2, High Mood (9-1), 3. Moster Blake (8-11 fav), 6 ran 19-11, 3, Majer Blake (B-11 kay, 6 ran 2-10 1, Sansuel Wilderspin (5-2), 2, Cheerful Aspect (15-8 kay), 3, Barhala Boy (9-2), 6 ron 2-40 1, Moondigue (5-4 key), 2, Anna Sod 6 (12-1), 3 Mascal Sing (4-1), 7 ran 3.15 1, Luke Warm (6-2), 2, Punters Ber (12-1), 3, Herhotse (10-3 kay), 7 ran 3.50 1, Coulbrand (2-1), 1-bay, 2, Kno's Cross (20-1), 3, The Brewmaster (2-1), I-bay, 6 ran Wolverhampton

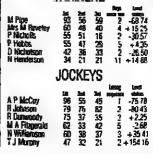
Going: standard 7,00 1, Mary Hanneth (7-1), 2, Sotonian (5-1), 3, Mukameb (9-4 fev), 13 ren. 7.30 1, Ultra Calm (7-4 lav), 2, State Wind (7-2), 3, Perchancer (9-2), 5 ran 8.00 1, Feetive (11-10 lev), 2, Wating Knight (10-1), 3, Shiting (33-1), 12 ran 8.30 1, Flying Officer (9-4); 2, Polace Green (8-1), 3, Polly Mills (6-1) Scarlett's Boy 11-8 av), s. conne vae (10-3) 8 (2n)
 9.301, Surbest (3-1); 2, Nouten (11-4) 3, Pipe Music (7-4 (av) 5 ran

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Andrera SS 85 Good Doen Verted Deart 3 09/01 Austrie (Stabilite) 20 70 Good Spin Pouries Store 3 08/01 Oberquiro 35 150 Fig. - Peng. Verted Deart 3 08/01 Oberquiro 35 150 Fig. - Peng. Verted Deart 3 08/01 Oberquiro 35 150 Fig. - Peng. Verted Deart 3 08/01 Oberquiro 35 150 Fig. - Peng. Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 35 150 Fig. - Peng. Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 35 150 Fig. - Peng. Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 35 150 Fig. - Peng. Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 35 150 Fig. - Peng. Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 36 100 Fig. - Spin Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 36 100 Fig. - Spin Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 36 100 Fig. - Spin Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 36 100 Fig. - Spin Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 36 100 Fig. - Spin Verted Fig. - 3 08/01 Oberquiro 36 100 Fig. - 3 0

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65 Barking Leicester: Triest Loyd 4, Addiction 2, Freshwater, Lougheed, Moody, Simpson, Stuar. Coas: Simpson 3, Stransity 2. Berk-ing: Pene: Azzopard 2 Mortey 8 Sarscens 76

Morley 9 Sarscens 76 Morley: Try: C Hall. Pen: Bember Sars-cens: Tries: Daniel 3, Olsen 2, Coler, Cole, Free, Grewcock Johnson, Penaud, Singer. Cons: Johnson 8 Att: 2,000.

Moseley 24 Lydney 25 Moseley: Tries: Buston, S Jones, Martin. Pens: Smart 3 Lydney: Tries: Dunloo 2, D Edwards Conse: Osbourne, Pelsley Pens: Osbourne, Pelsley, Alž: 800.

Osbourne, Paisley, Alt: 800.
Neurostie: 25 Bath 22
Memcastie: Trys Beatile. Com: Wikinson.
Pens: Wikinson 8, Bath: Thies: Calt, Exmistew, Websier Cons: Catt 2, Pens: Calt.
Nottingham 8, Ereser 24
Nottingham: Trys Surdy, Pens: C Alianson.
Exeters Tries: Armstung, Webbor, Woodman. Conta: 8 Easson 3, Pens B Easson.

man Contic B Easson S. Paric B Easson.
Rotherham: 24 Leeds 27
Rotherham: Tries: Garnett, Kenworthy,
Lax, Scully Cours: Narchos 2. Leeds:
Tries: Easterby 2. Middleton, Reid. Coos:
Cawfrome, Tupudotu. Par: Tupudotu.
Richmond: Tries: Brown 3. Bateman,
Chepman, Pichot, Vender, Weine. Const.
Valo 3. Narebury: Tries: Gully, Holloway.
Com Polhippi. Alt: 2,859
Sale. 21 Morthematon. 47

Sale: Tries: Yates 2, Howarth, Relweld, A Sarie: Tries: Yates 2, Howarth, Relweld, A Sardisron, Const. Howarth 3, Northamp-ton: Tries: Seely 8, Beel, Minings. Mor, panelly by Const. Grayson 6, Alt. 3,000.

"Sedgley Park: Pen: Moon Wasps: Tries: Logan 3, Scriverer 3, Sampson 2, Scrase. Cone: King 4, Att: 2,900.

Sedgley Park 3 Waspe

Haveni 16 3 0 13 191 433 6

LOWICH AND SOUTH EAST: Besingsinks 25 Thurnock 27: Guidiford and
Goderning 14 Westcombe Park 44: Herbow
10 Cheshum 19. Old Mid-Whitgothers 13
Thurset Wanderers 30; Staines 29 Woodbord
8. Sutton and Epsom 100 Southernd 0.
SOUTH WEST: Bornstopis 22 Keynsham
3. Berry Mil 21 Gloucester OB 10. Launceston 55 Torquey Athletic 3: Masson 10 Penzance/Newlyn 17: Salestury 15 Old Palesens 0; Stroud 7 Masderinerd 24,
MIDLANDS: Berkers Butts 21 Keniworth
13; Berlord Athletic 13 Banbury 23. Balgrave 6 Sounthorpe 16, Broadstreet 27
Mansfield 8, Burton 35 Leptino Buzzard 3,
Dudley 19 Syston 8; Woherhampton 12
Sloke-on-Trent 8,
NORTH: Belgdon 27 Wigton 3, Bridlington
5 Northern 10; Maccleshald 27 Broughton
Park 17 Stockard 31 ynedale 21, Widnes 10
Donosster 10
TETLEY'S BITTER VASE: Filith recents:

TETLEY'S BOYYER VASE: Fifth m South West: Augn 44 Pennanuans 7 London and South East: Billericay 17 UCSOB 5. Midlands: Wellingborough OG 13 Upton-on-Severn 5.

Welsh Challenge Trophy

Aberzwon: Tries: D Griffiths, Hamilton, P. Jones, R. Lawis, Maddock, penalty try. Cone: Stork 6.

Pool A

Aberavon

54 43, 3 M Walkins (133) 55 01 Statistations Som: 1, L Krayesburg (155) 57 R 2 S Tr-elote (Ger) 25 01, 3 T Karlo (Cro) 25 10 200m: 1, S Thelote (Ger) 1 55 52, 2 G Mec-aro (So) 1 57 66, 3 R Romero (By 1 56 43 Individual medicy: 200m: 1, T Doten (US)

202.79- 2. J. Anderson (Don) 2-03-53 3, 0 Sammadin (Fr) 2-05-08 Women: Preestyle: 100m; 1-5 Roigh (GB) 55-52 2 Yang Lin-100m; 1-5 Roigh (GB) 55-52 2 Yang Lin-100m; 1-5 Roigh (GB) 31-2 L Yan (Christia 4-14-38, 3 C Simen (GB) 4-15-50 Baread-stryke: 56m; 1-5 Gressch (Ge) 31.74-2 J Majers (GB) 33-61 3, H Wong (HK) 33-99 200m; 1-1 Jikageng (Ge) 2-30-27, 2, 3 Gen-sch (Ge) 2-30-48, 4, 5-1 Sheety 2-35-33 In-dividual medieg: 100m; 1-5 Roigh (GB) 2-30-27, 2, 3 Gen-sch (Ge) 2-30-48, 4, 5-1 Sheety 2-35-33 In-dividual medieg: 100m; 1-5 Roigh (GB) 1-05-8, 2-7 Klochkova (Uhr) 1-04-50, 3-1 Hu-was (HR) 1-164-88 400m; 1-7 Klochkova (LBn) 4-30-92 2 C Berne (Las) 4-65-58, 3-D Ourard (Gen) 4-51-47 Bactestrines: 100m; 1-K Stelangslyn (Can) 1-07-52 E Gammei (Can) 1-01-75 3, C Fund (Ge) 1-02-22 Bac-terfly 50m; 1-5 Skou (Den) 2-7-58 -2 K von-nessminds: II) 27-76 3 A Drate (LS) 22-D 200m; 1-5 Skou (Den) 2-10-77, 2, Ruen 4 (Christia) 1-72-23 M Freedman (US) 2-13-11 TPENNIME

DOHA: Qutar Open: Semi-finals: R Schu-ter (Ge) Di C Potere (Fr) 3-6, 6-2, 7-5 T Hen-rem (GB) Di X Alarm (Nov. 6-1, 6-2 Final): Schulter Di Hennen 6-4, 5-7, 6-1 Schulter Di Hennen 6-4, 5-7, 6-1 Sweden 2-1 (Australia numes first J Dohn t): A Carteson 6-2, 7-6. M Philippousses in J Bipchama 6-3, 7-6. Philippousses and Dohn tout to Bipchame 3-0, 7-6. Sweden 6-8; ADELAIDE: Men's Australian Instructorum

Bohrman 6-3, 7-6, Phappousses and Dois tool to Biochimen and Contains 6-5.

ADELAIDE: Men's Australian hardcourt chemplonathips: Small-finals: 7 Eng.-c. | Swe) bit S Draper (Auc) 6-3, 7-5; 1, Heur (Auc) bit J Stotlenberg (Auc) 6-3, 7-5; 1, Heur (Auc) bit J Stotlenberg (Auc) 6-3, 7-5; 1, Heur (Auc) bit J Stotlenberg (Auc) 6-3, 7-5; 1, Heur (Auc) bit J Stotlenberg (Auc) 6-2, 1-6; 1, Heur (Auc) 6-4; 6-1, 6-2, HOMG (KOMC: Chellenge Cup; Final; Y V. Alamin; (US) bit Siral (Bet) 2-2, rot GOLD COAST: Women's Australian band-count championships: Final; P Schrydur Switz, HOMG (Final; P Schrydur Switz) 6-6, 6-2

AUCKLAND: ASB Classic: Final; P Schrydur (Switz) bit P HOMG (Final; P Schrydur (Switz) Bit P Homg (Final;

Philadelphia 20 9 10 112 82 57 New Jersey 22 11 5 114 160 49 Philadelphi 19 10 7 107 94 48 NY Rangers 15 17 7 105 103 37 NY Islanders 13 25 3 93 120 23

Southeast division

Western Conference

Northwest division

Pacific division

*S P Fleming, D L Vetton, G R Larsen and S B Doull did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS 1-21, 2-126, 3-166, 4-168, 5-184

BOWLING Smeath 8-0-35-2, Pressed 8-1-41-0, Chopra 8-0-37-0, Singh 4-0-36-1.

Tericlulian 8-0-34-1, Kanitker 2-0-12-0.

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Third day of four: Adetelder South Australia 284-6 9 dec 19 A Johnson 122, G R Parker 52) and 218-5 (G R Parker 117 not out), Wastern Australia 330 (M Dighton 95, S M katich 60, G Chaling-worth 5-96)

MERCANTILE CUP: Camberra: Victoria 226-4 (50 overs; B J Hodge 118), Camberra 231-5 (43 overs; B Hodge 133). Camberra best Victoria by final enclusis.

Umpires: B F Bowden and D B Cowe

18 16 7 106 101 43 13 14 10 95 101 36 on 14 20 3 88 94 31 ay 9 27 3 81 137 21

W L T F A Pts 20 17 2 119 106 42 15 13 9 102 93 39 14 21 4 94 121 32 11 23 6 67 129 23

17 19 4 96 104 38 78 18 5 110 103 37 13 22 5 104 123 31 13 24 3 101 125 27

25 8 6 113 72 56 27 10 5 99 76 47 15 16 8 94 89 38 15 21 4 96 104 34 12 17 10 87 95 34

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FOR THE RECORD 10 Frebrands 3, Norton 6 Southgate 9, Loughboro 4 Reading 7: Abption 8 Frebrands 7; Southgate 7 Old Loughborners 9; Norton 4 Loughboro 7. Old Loughborners 3 Reading 6. Frebrands 2 Southgate 11. Fluid profitions 10 Ct Loughborners 2 Reading 6. Frebrands 2 Southgate 11. Fluid positions 1, 20 Ct Loughborners 2 Reading 10: 3, Southgate 9, 4 Loughborners, Floriton 4, Freschand 0 Cusathlers East Contracts 10 Ct Loughborners, Reading, Southgate REGONAL LEAGUES: East Contracts 3 Bodford 0, Crostyx 2 B Stortlord 2, Ipsands 4 Bluehars 1, Peterboro 2 Cambs Contracts 3 Bodford 0, Crostyx 2 B Stortlord 2, Ipsands 4 Bluehars 1, Peterboro 2 Cambs Chothester 3 Bodford 0, Crostyx 2 B Stortlord 2, Ipsands 1 Bluehars 1, Peterboro 2 Cambs Chothester 3 Bluehars 1, Peterboro 2 Strewsbury 1 Khatsa 0 Harborne 2. Northampton 5 I Loughston 29, 2, Harborne 26, 3, Nothingham 25 Southe Chorlester 6 Bournemouth 1; Cdy of Portsmouth 2 Old Whighters 0, High Wecombe 0 Old Cranlegisms 1, Putley OW 3 Richmond 1 Standinger 1, Everbarn 28, 2, Cay of Portsmouth 23, 3, Beckersham 22. SENBOR MEN'S CLUB MATCH; Chemistord 5 T Weis 2 EHA WOMEN'S CUP: Fourth round: Duwich 1, Chipm 5, Pries Lecostre 5 Shetheld 1; Hightown 0 Sherwood 0 (abandoned eller 32 mins, Eccen path) Postporned Backown v Siough Revised Rith-round chaus Atholge V Otton, Billingham of Essbourie V Pries Lecostre 5, Centerbury v Doncaster, Chemistord v Loughborn Students, Chibon thodders) v Ipsach, Caling v Black-burn Northern on Stough Hythown or Sterwood v Tucke Hill, Wholing Switzs v Bradford CHESHRIE WOMEN'S CUP: Semi-6-matic Chester 0 Winnington Park 2, Poyriton 2 Decade R 4 AMERICAN FOOTBALL Yamahai 5.12 4 R Sanct (Fr 1884); 5.18 6. I Magnaid (Fr KTM) 6.06 6, F Meon / it. KTM] 7.51 Leading overall positions: 1 Sanct 327 (2mn 58ec. 2 Magnato at 6mn 43eec. 3, Meon 2026 DARTS entry 2 kings. Norton and South Birminghem 1, Mid and South Waywolisher 5 Numetion 0. Historiaer and Stouthridge 2 Mire Forest 2. RUGBY UNION: Bractions GS 13 Northingham GS 5 Distriction Half Cross 15 Humers 15 John Florie 49 Latiner 0 Wateringhon 0 Trun 51, Regale GS 18 St Benedick, School 10 MOCKEY; Regale GS 3 Caterham School 0 SAILING NATIONAL LEAGUE. (NFL): Play matches: National Conference: Apr BOURNEMOUTH: English indoor Boreling Association international triat. North or South East 76-62: South West bt Certral 94-69; South East 10-central 72-54; North bt South West 66-52: South West bt South South West 66-52: South West bt South Seat 75-55; North bt Central 79-58. Final positionist 1, North-33-ts. 2, South West 24-3, South East 13, 4, Central 8. LAKESDE COUNTRY CLUB, Frimley Greet: Embitsey world championship: Seasi-Reals: R Barrieveld (Hol) bit C Meson (Eng) 5-2. R Bester (Eng) bit A Fordham (Eng) 5-1 20 Sep Francisco 18. American Confer-RACKETS BASKETBALL silienite 1, North 33pts, 2, South West 24, 3, South East, 13, 4, Central 8. ENGLISH, 13, 4, Central 8. ENGLISH, WOMEN'S INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP (Yeston Trophy), Zonal sensi-finalia: Zone one: Stanley it South Shieks, 74-58; Darlington bt Great Ayoffie 115-76. Zone-twee Cumbris to Delston 128-50, York In Hust 109-59. Zone three: Durnolme or Grantham 85-70. Lebester to Geoling 98-57. Zone fear: Merch bi Cambridge Chesterion 87-86; Desborough (N) bt 3 Neths 38-73. Zone ferve: Ade at County Arts 81-78. Dies bi Presencel Park 102-71. Zone stat: Ipswich bi Beccles 35-60; Cothester bi Palcon 95-53. Zone advent: Tye Green bi Hasening 107-54. The Lawns to Pickers Locks 73-63. Zone sight: Cherwel bt City and County of Chárd 55-79. Desborough (M) bt Riverani 83-56. Zone nine: Erdington Count bi Bromspree 89-69: Bernham bt Swindon Weellecol 85-57. Zone 16: King George Field to Mole Valley 83-67. Croydon b) Dorynge 89-69. Zone 11: Wisterlangins: bit Lorignescow 111-50. Epham bt River Insential 65-60. Angel (Torbindge) bt Designet Ridge 125-48. Zone 13: Wiestern to Actur 93-69. Gestions bit Eporton Park 88-62. Zone 14: Atherby bt Selant 75-89. Dolphia bt Dorchester 114-68. Zone 12: Northson bt North Wide 96-65. Yeavel bi Bridgueter 77-72. Zone 18: Torbey by Tegnbridge 98-77. West Command bt Cammoggas 82-70. SAINSPURY'S CLASSIC COLA NATIONAL CUP: First: Greeter London Leoparde 65 Shaffield Sharles 67. BLOWEISER LEAGUE: Saturday: Laceater Rules 89 Worthing Bears 82. **GOLF** SWIMMING KAPALIJA, Hawait: Mercedes champion-ship: Leaders after three rounds (Linted States unless stated) 198: D Duvel 67, 63, 68, 200: F Funk 68, 68, 68, 200: W Maylar 68, 69, 69, 200: I Wicoch 68, 69, 67: J Funk 68, 69, 69, V Snigh (Fyl) 70, 65, 70, 207: M O'Meera 70, 68, 59, 200: S Pata 65, 70, 73, 210: B Chambios 70, 71, 69, F Couples 69, 68, 73, 211: J P Hayes 70, 71, 70, M Calcaveoria 70, 71, 71, W Andrade 57, 70, 74, 212: P Meksten 72, 70, 70; J Surnan 73 57, 72, 210; S Appole 7, 14, 121; J P Harnevik (Swe) 69, 74, 73, S Smpson 71, 71, 74, L Jenzen 69, 72, 74, 218: J P Lanton 71, 71, 73, L Jenzen 69, 72, 74, 218: J P Lanton 74, 73, S Smpson 71, 71, 74, C Peny 99, 73, 74, Menches sylvorumg Bears 82. Menches Gents 17 16 1 Sheffield Sharks 17 16 1 Sheffield Sharks 17 18 1 Tharnes Valley Tigats 18 12 6 Derby Storm 17 11 5 Birmanhram Bullets 18 10 8 London Toward 16 9 7 Mencaptite Engles 18 9 9 Greater London 18 6 10 Letossier Ridders 18 6 12 Million Faynes Llons 14 4 11 Chester Jans 17 4 13 Edinburgh Rocks 14 3 11. Worthig Bears 17 2 14 **REAL TENNIS** BEESON GREGORY PROFESSIONAL DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP: Quarter-finals R Gurn and S Virgons at D Johnson and H Latham 6-2 6-2. J Howell and K Sheldon bt A Davies, and S Brod-ershaw 6-1, 6-2 N Wood and A Philipp at M Earlie and A Lyons 2-6, 6-2, 6-1, C Bray and M Gooding bt J Dawies and M Coghlan 6-1, 6-1 Violating Bears II of 19 UMI-BALL TROPHY: Group A: Derby Storm I to Trames Valley Tigers B1; Manchesse Glanks 80 Chester Jels 76 P W L Pts Sheffield Sharks 7 6 1 12 Derby Storm 7 5 2 10 Manchester Garats 7 5 2 10 Leicester Riders 8 7 4 3 8 Chestel Jets 7 4 3 8 Thermal Valley Tigers 8 2 4 4 HOCKEY EHA CUP: Fourth round: Carnock II Harpgate 0 Postporast: Bowdon and Loughboough Students. Revised fifth-round councy. Students. Revised fifth-round councy. Students. But State Sheffed Sharks Detry Storm Manchester Gents Leicester Riders Chestel Jets Themed Valley Tigers Malon Reynes Lions Worthing Beers 7 6 1 12 7 5 2 10 8 4 2 8 7 4 3 8 6 2 4 4 7 1 6 2 7 0 7 Carrill (1994) 20129, 3 J Variant (Aus) 2015; 300m; 1 C Pel (Cro) 8 31 50; 2 C. C Benze (Aus) 8 33 58, 3 L Var. (Chris) 8 830.8 Breaststroker (100m; 1 S Geratch (Ger1 109 35, 2 Huego g (Ger) 1 11 30; 3 J Mulans (GB) 1 11 66 Busterfly; 100m; 1 R Yi (Chris) 1998 2 5 Soci (Der 1 100 05, 3 K Lerha (Swo) 1 01.32 Becleproker Som: 1 K Setanyshin (Car) 28 97; 2 E Gammel (Car) 29 17, 3 Hue vau HP/, 29 53 Individ-ant medicing; 200m; 1, 1 Huorkian (Uni 2 12 69; 2 S Roigh (GB) 2 17 43, 3, 5 Norden-stam Gwei 2 18 09 YESTERDAY, Men; Freestyle; 50m; 1, 8 RUGBY LEAGUE MATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE Premier division: Askam 10 Hevorin 7, Casteford Lock Lane 18 Woolston 12, Experior 1 Bo Otham 3 Annes 0 Legin LR 12 West Houl 22; Saddieworth 16 Wainey Central D Sur-laugh 44 Beverley East Holl 2 Thorma 37 Wigen St Patricks 10 Finst divisions Dutley Hill 34 Berow Islamd 10 Featherstore Lotte 28 Rochdale Mayland 10 Addited 23 Molognes 31, Million 14 East Leads 14, Out-101 Legin East 24, Sulton 8 Feeth 2 Wigen St Ludes 48 Shaw Cross 10 Second divisions: Blockbrook 12 Normanion 12, Devishiny Micri 24 London St. Lans 32, East-moor 25 Dodworth 16, Kerghey Att 2 Hou Dockers 20, York Acom 4 Ecoles 16 Post-pormet Confeddy Vivenden, Ideal labory v New Earsmot. ing: 10 to Wasser and Schann Schilder CUPPER ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE: Ling 2d (Galapagos to Haman with miles to brach) 1 4xel (A Thorston) 1937 S. Serca (R Donn) 1948. 3 Chrysolee, (T Hedges, 1983, 4 Wermerus (B Schars) 201, 5, Tage org, N Ferning) 2046 6 Themophap (M Tod) 2113, 7, Antope (K Hams) 2,170 MOTOR RALLYING Worfung Bears 7 0 7 0 7 NATIONAL LEAGUE: Next: First divi-sion: Cardiff C 71 Westmander 87, London T 64 Colentry 78: Med Susses 79 Stevenage 79; Solint 89 Guidford 90 Second divi-sions Elimangham 84 Liverpool 70; Chees-ing 81; Manchester 81 Boursemouth 64; Swindon 78 Wandoworth 96, Teunton 89 Themse Valley 61 Third division: Ware 90 NW London 77 Women: First division: Ipowich 83 Leacester 54; London F 75 North-amptor 81. Second division: Chelmator 62 St Abane 50; Plymouth 91 Caucht C 47. DAKAR RALLY: Ninth stage (Bobo Dou-lesso to Mopti, 782km)* Canc. 1. J.L. Sch-lessor (Fr. Schlesser) 3m 43mm 8sec; 2, K. Shinozuka (Japan, Misubish) at 7mm 4sec; 3, M. Pretio (Sp. Misubish) 7 15, 4, H. Masubia (Japan, Misubish) 736, 5, S. Pe-lerhansel (Fr. Nissen)* 798; 5, J.P. Fordenay (Fr. Misubish)* 798; 5, J.P. Fordenay (Fr. Misubish)* 874 42mm 7eec; 2, Pre-tional 9mm 25sec; 3, J.Klenschmidt (Ger. Mi-subish)* 2136 Mistorbikos; 1, A. Cox (SA, KTM) 3h 37mm 9sec; 2, C. de Geverdo (Chile, KTM) at 5mm 2sec; 3, C. Solelo (Sp. BOXING PENSACOLA, Florida: World Boxing Council and World Boxing Association light-heavyweight chemolosuship: R Jones Jr. (15, folder) bit R Frazer (US) roc 2nd. International Boxing Federation Rightweight chemolosuship: S Mossey (US, hotder) bit G Johnson (US) to 7th SEOUL: World Boxing Council super-figureight championship: Cho In-yoo (S Kor, hotdas) bit J L Zarante (Med pis. stam (Swe) 2 18 09 YESTERDAY: Mon: Freestyle: 50m: 1 R Gusperi it) 22 42 2 N Richard (Aus) 22 43, 3 D Carter (Aus) 22 52 20m: 1 J Cartersten (Den) 1 49 26 2 P Chrystone (f) 1 49,91 3 J Rasmussen (Den) 1 51 46 1,500m: 1 T Lorithni (En) 15 33 16 2 J Carthrasen (Den) 15 54 77, 3 H Wolfard (N2) 16 05,75 Bresststrater. (Titler: 1 E. Dek persone (Den) **SCHOOLS SPORT** FOOTBALL: Premier League Trophy: Un-der-19: Merceyscle 3 West Yorkshire 2 Un-der-16: Merceyscle 1 West rorkshire 1 York-shire Trophy: Bradford 2 Hemblatin and Potimond 0, West Midlands League Cov-**ATHLETICS** Rits (Sale) 31.10, 2, G Varley (Lecropol Herriss) 31.50, 3, C Smith (Lecropol Herriss) 33.52. Teams: 1, Whital 46; 2, South Liverpool School Lecropol Lecropo ICE HOCKEY NATIONAL REDOOR ARENA, Birmingham: Midland Counties Indicor Opens Mare Midland Counties Indicor Opens Mare Motor J. Flest, Belgrand 9 78ee, 80m Introfess Religional 9 78ee, 80m Introfess Religional 9 78ee, 80m Introfess Religional Calvery of Stoke) 225m. Pole whatte C North Braton) 6m. Worstein: 60m: C Bacomfield (Essex Larlies) 7.47. 400m: V Day (Essex Larlies) 55.06 60m hisrdines R Hang Cardin) 8.58. High Jamps A Bermose (Adorshot, Farnham and Desidd) 1.73m. Pole wastit: 1.5 santham and Desidd 1.73m. Pole wastit: 1.5 santham and Heddern 7.3 soon hardies R Hunter 6 medical Condensation (Sales) 1.8 santham and 1.5 Track and field Manchester 23 19 2 1 1 90 42 40 Carditi 23 16 5 0 2 84 55 34 Notingham 20 8 8 3 1 16 165 20 Bracknett 23 8 12 1 2 71 86 19 Sheftled 24 7 13 3 1 73 82 18 Condon 24 7 13 2 2 71104 18 Newcastla 24 7 14 2 1 63 68 17 NATIONAL LEAGUE; Priday: Orlawa 5 Jampa Bay 1 Calgary 1 Dalles 0, Vancouver 1 Florida 1, Anahem 4 Proemo, 1 Satur-day: Detrod 3 Colorado 2, Mortineal 3 New York Islanders 2 Tronton 6 Boston 3 Wash-ngton 3 New Jersey 2, Philadelphia 2 Caroli-na 0, Prisburgh 2 St Louis 1; Nastwile 3 Chi-cago 3, Los Angeles 1 Edmorson 1, Burtalo 2 San Jose 2 outh 9.3. CHYSTAL PALACE: Open Indoor meeting: Ment 60m: R Morren (Vale of Aylea-oush) 7 6eso. 60m hurdles: M Freckleton (Bickheath) 8.5. Women: 50m: M Paris (H-fond) 7.9. 60m hurdles: S Cladon (Colche-ser end Tending) and S Porter (Sutton) 9.0. Northeast division 23 15 2 129 114 48 21 10 6 103 77 48 20 13 6 118 68 45 19 14 8 104 89 44 14 19 7 92 107 35 Toronto Bultato Otlawa Boston Montreal Cross country AMOREBIETA: IAAF meeting: Men (10.8m); I. R.Limo (Ken) 33min 53eao; 2, 8 Lime, (Ken) 3353; 3, 11 Mekonren (Eth) 3351-4. T. Nyarifa (Ken) 3402; 5, A.Mezope-bu (Eh) 34:07; 6, P. Kospel (Ken) 34:11. Wonse (6.3mr); 1, G. Warm (Eth) 22:19; 2, Z. Cieszi; (Mor) 23:20; 3, J. Merreng (Ken) 23:24; 4, M. Denboba (Eth) 24:57; 8, A. Worke (Eth) 24:57; 8, 8. Adere (Eth) 24:39. BATH. I INMERSERY; 4 man. champion. CRICKET 80 36: 2, Brighton & Howe 54: 3, Hestergs AC D1. LEAMINGTON SPA: Warwickehire champtonshiper Ment (9 Bird): 1, M Bouldshidge (Bhotheid) S2min 18sec, 2, A Farmsworth (Ripton) 52-41: 3, R Tsylor (Covantry Godwe) 8303: 4, P Massor (Laboseter Contamine) 33*15; 8, M Hirsch (Bird) 33:31: 8, D Smith (Solina & Small Heath) 33:35. Tasmar: 1, Coventry Godwe Spite, 2, Solina & Small Heath) 33:35. Tasmar: 1, Coventry Godwe Spite, 2, Solina & Small Heath) 33:35. Tasmar: 1, Coventry Godwe Spite, 2, Solina & Small Heath) 33:35. Tasmar: 1, Coventry Godwe Spite, 2, Solina & Small Heath) 33:35. Tasmar: 1, Coventry Godwe Spite, 2, Solina (Coventry Godwe) 22:25:3, H Kame (Ripton) 25:31:4, D Crishee (Picribizook) 27:28. Tasmars: 1, Coventry Godwe) 32:3; Northbrook 37. SWINDON: "Witiphire championshipe: Men (10.29mi): 1) Witchson: (Swindon) 34:25; 3, G Gardon: (Caine Runners) 36:20. Tasmars: 1, Swindon; 2, Chy of Seisbury, 3, Cohes. One-day international Worte (Eth) 24.01; S. B. Adere (Eth) 24:39. BATIL UNIVERSITY: Aron champion-shipe: Men (1)tim; I. R. Whelley (Beth University). 36mm 42:sec. 2. M. Cox. (Sation) 37:42; 3. J. Embry (Westhury) 37:55; 4. S. Shepley (Toton) 38:17; 8. B. Trapnell (Beth University). 38:57; 8. Teamer. I. Westhury 89:55; 2. Besh 134; 3. Chy. of Beth 156. Women (7:2m): 1. A. McCornoli (Bristol). 29:00; 2. K. Dier (Bristol). 29:18; B. Lambert. (Bristol). 29:51. Teamer. 10:10. C.A/BURY: Essex. chemplonehiper. Man (7.5 miles): 1, N. Wedherlope (Beshtort). 38mm 62:56; 2. E. Martin (Beshtol). 89:32; 2. J. Allis (Chahralond). 41:25; 2. H. McBesht (Beshtort). 41:37; 5. R. McBesht (Beshtort). 41:37; 5. R. McBesht (Bethtort). 41:37; 5. R. McBesht (Bethtort). 41:37; 5. R. McBesht (Bethtort). 42:51. Teamer. 1, Cholmistort 59:pts; 2. Havelpro Mayechrock 130; 3. Blord 188. Women. New Zealand v India TAUPO (India won loss) New Zealand best India by five wokets (D/L method) INDIA S C Ganguly c Larsen b Vetton ... S R Tenchiber c Herris b Carrie ... R Drawld not out ... M Adhardoot b Larsen ... A Jackes c and b Herris ... R R Snight run out ... H H Kentikar not out ... Total (III wide ...) Presed did not bet. FAILL OF WICKETS 1-3, 2-118, 3-144, 4-163, 3. G Gardner (Caine Runners) 38(20) Tearner 1, Swindorr, 2, City of Salisbury, 3, Caine Surriers, Women (Seri): 1, W Coombes (City of Selebury) 20,10; 2, E O'Dowd (Swindon) 20(29; 3, A Sites (Westbury) 20/49. Tearner 1, Swindorr, 2, City of Salisbury, 3, Swindon B, Vestermer Z Marchant (City of Beth) 21/16. ROTHERHAM: Yorldshire champlonshipe; May (7, 5 mites): 1, K Chichley (Sale) 36ms (Sale); 3, C Moore (Bingley) 37/16; 4, [Fisher (Oiley) 37/47; 5, A Peace (Bingley) 37/50; 6, J Heliotrishire 179. Women (4 mites): 1, C Greenwood (Gingley), 23/22; 2, P Thackray (Fisilemshire 179. Women (4 mites): 1, C Greenwood (Gingley), 23/22; 2, P Thackray (Fisilemshire 18-Bettley) 31/1; 3, C (ac), Pudsey & Brantley), 24/24; 4, L Mawer (Imported, Harropale), 24/25; 5, C Pattern (Hellermshire Shebath), 24/41; 8, [Wolfenden (Leeds, City) 24/55; Tearner; 1, Helfemshire 23; 2, Leeds Cally 25, 3, Rotherhern 34, RECHIROND PARKS, Surrey, Women's BOWLING Carrie 8-0-63-1. Doub 7-1-34-0. Nash B-0-42-0. Larrien 10-0-46-1. Harris 10-1-35-1. Vetton E-0-26-1. McMitan 2-0-18-0 vetro, Neyestrook 130: 3, Bord 188 Worm-ed (5 miss); 1, JSulfiver (Havering Mayos-bold; 31:33, 2, G Greenheigh (Cothester & Tenching) 31:58; 3, D Harmas (Havering Myestroot) 62:44; 4, Higgs (Cothester Harriers) 32:48; 5, J Calichley (Bord) 33:94; 6, A Caloman (Cothester & Tenching) 3503, Teamer 1, Harving Mayestrook 31, 2, Cothester & Tenching, 42; 3, Blord 75; **NEW ZEALAND** | NEW ZEALAND | 10 | M | 200 | 10 | M | Home love b Tenduter | 57 | C D McMeter C Gonguly b Shreath | 79 | C L Came c Small b Singh | 23 | 1 A C Paragre not out | 16 | C Z Hame not out | 13 | D J Nash not out | 1 | Edras (tb 5, w 2) | 7 | 7 | SUB. Teamer 1, Havering Mayosbrook 31, 2 Colchester & Trending 42, 3, Bloot 7, Colchester & March 1, Tenbridge 84(a), 2, Mediacy 83, 1, Kerl & C. 176, Women (6.40m); 1, L. Widson (6.50m); 10, The Women (6.40m); 10, L. Widson (6.50m); 10, The Women (6.40m); 10, L. Widson (6.50m); 10, The Women (6.40m); 10, L. Widson (6.50m); 10, The Women (6.40m); 11, L. Widson (6.50m); 11, L. Widson (6.50m); 11, L. Widson (6.50m); 11, L. Widson (7.50m); 11, L. Widson (Guy Smith-Bingham serves during one of his two finals victories over Andrew Titchener-Barrett at Queen's Club yesterday. Smith-Bingham won both the under-21 and under-24 rackets championships. Photograph: Tom Hevezi Total (5 wids, 38 overs) RUGBY UNION Subvan, Wintle Conet Javes 3 Penet Javes 3 Seransea: Try: Rees Con: A Tho-mas Pene: A Thomas 4 POSTPONED: Pontypridd v Edinburgh Rewers European Cup Alpine skiing Waterloot Tries: Byth 2, Beckett, Pert: Gri-fitte. Orreit: Try: Wart Pene: Verbickes 2. Att: 900 Cuiy 25, 3, Rotherhern 34. RCCHMOND PARKS Survey Women's Lengue (Simr): First distribute: 1, R Dislay: 21min 18act; 2, C Diss (Herne Hill; 21:28; 3, C Mickintay-Evens (SLH) 22:07. Tearmes: 1, Herne Hill 42/55; 2, South London Harriers 45, 3, Tharmes Here & Hounds 74, Lending standings (after these matches): 1, South London Harriers 25; 2, Herne Hill 26, 3, Tharpes Here & Hounds 22. Second division: 1, K Remey (Walton) 21:11; 2, S Bleckett (Dutwich Park Runners) 21:25; 3, E Wilper: (Hercules: Wimbledom) 21:41. Tearmes, 1, Beigrave 94; 2, Straggiers 118, 3, Walton 162. Leadings standings (after three matches): 1, Beigrave 51; 2, Straggiers 47, 3, Dutwich Park Furners 45. Semi-finals Semi-finals Colomiers 10 Perpignan 6 Colomiers Try: Skrels. Core Skrels. Pens Labit. Perpignan: Pens: Beliot 2. Usster 33. Stade Français 27 Usster: Tries: Humphreys, McKinty Cons Mason 2. Stade Français: Tries: Juliet 2, Lehvernont. Cores: Dorranguez Domanguez 2. Pool B Tennent's Velvet Cup (set; 8-8 after 80min) Ebbw Vale 22 Glasgow Cal 33 Ebbw Vale: Tries: Hawket, Mantey, Cisen Coos: Strange 2. Pens Strange, Glasgow Catedonians: Tries: Lesile, Longstall, Shaw, Stark, Const Hayes 2. Pens: Hayes W Hartiepool 34 Brackmell Fifth round West Hartlepool: Tries: Coller, Famil, Mc-Donald, Ponton, Satter Cons: Vile 3 Pent Vile, Brackmell: Tries: Jackson, Yales. Const Russell 2, Att. 600 Heriot's FP 45 Perthshire Heriot's FP: Tries: McVie 2. Boswell, A Call, Keonan, Proctor, Ross Come: Ross 5 Pertherhine: Tries: Binnie, J Walker Llanelli 23 Blue Bulls 10 Langholm 16 Gale 39 Langholm: Triest A Johnstone, Paston Perss: Park 2 Gales: Triest C Townsend 2, Rown, C Patterson, 1 Wer Coast C Patterson 4 Penes: C Patterson 2 Jewson National League Liametit Tries: Madden, pondty ty. Cores S Jones 2. Pener S Jones 3. Stoe Bolts: Typ: Van Schallwyk. Cont Lawless Pent Benadie Newport 21 Gauteng 18 Newport Tries: Child. M. Manuer. Cont. Second division north EUROPEAN SHIELD: Postponed: Bourgon v Brive; Montierrand v Narbonne. Aspatria 24 Whitchurch Nuneatori 6 New Brighton Stourbridge 10 Preston Winnington Pk 21 Lichfield Preston Lodge 33 Peebles Preston Lodge Tries: \$ Caliland. I M Robertson. Wear Coast Sart 2 Sart 3 Peebles: Tries: Farmer 2. I Cont Nisbet Pens: Nisbet 2 Stewartry 25 Kirkcaldy Tetley's Bitter Cup Newport: Tries: Gibbs, M Wallers, Core Michell Penes: McCrell 3 Gauteng Fal-cons: Tries: Espag, Lourens, Schroeder Cons: Van As 2. Road running Fourth round Fourth round Bedford 22 Henley 29 Bedford Tries: Forster 2, Whetstone 2. Com: Yapo Henley: Tries: Sherp 2, Bernnan, P Carnan. Cons: Roke 3, Pam: Roke. Alt: 1,905. Bristol 19 London Irish: 43 Bristol: Tries: Baber, M. Bernnett, penally try. Cons: Hull 2. London Irish: Tries: Venter 2, Bishop, Boer, Kirke, O'Shea, Woods. Cons: Woods 4, Alt: 7,000 Gloucester 31 Woodsster 17 Road running Wildank Ashurat Bencon 6 miles: 1, S Wilis: (Todincolen) 38mn 25sez; 2, B Boland Alexburgh) 39:2273, A Hesketh (Horwich) 39:59 Teams: 1, Newburgh 13, 2, Horseich 23, 3, Southport) 35 Women: 1, Johannan (Chorley) 53:24; 2, S Cooper (Southport) 55:17; 3, C Cusine; Southport) 55:38. HOMERTON: Inter-club 3 miles: 1, M Cales: (Elon Menod 15mm; 2, A Lashnar é/iciona Park Harriers) 15:50; 3, R Nesbould: (Victoria Park Harriers) 15:52, Teams: 1, Victoria Park Harriers) 15:52, Elon Menor 366, Vederass: L Austin (Victoria Park Harriers) 16:39, Over-80: T Eserity (Elon Manor) 17:50, Women: 1, A Garmon (Victoria Park Harriers) 19:31, 2, J Stafford (Elon Manor) 20:25; 3, L Deer (Elon Manor) 25:49. POSTPONED: Walsali v Hinckley. POSTPONED: Walsall v Hinckley. P W D L F A 8 Prestor 16 15 0 1 615 28 Stourbridge 16 13 0 3 465 267 New Brighton 16 11 0 5 412 151 Shoffeld 15 10 0 5 327 249 Numeaton 16 9 2 5 368 324 Asparta 16 9 0 7 401 359 Seogley Park 15 8 1 6 399 259 Kandal 15 7 1 7 349 398 Sandal 15 7 1 7 348 398 Sandal 15 7 0 8 367 359 Whitchurch 16 4 1 11 249 395 Whitchurch 16 4 1 11 249 395 Hinckley 15 2 1 12 194 473 Wirnington Pk 16 2 0 14 189 549 Lchfield 16 1 0 15 196 524 Welsh League Stewarty: Tries: Bryson 2, penalty by. Cons: Walace 2 Pens: Walace 2 Kirkosidy: Tries: Canuthers, 5 Hanneth. Hermotion, M Renton. Cont. J Michel Watsonians 0 Metrose 33 Pringing 27.48 Teams: Casyon-Is-Moons 16. SHIRLEY PARK, St Helenus: Memoryaide chempilenehips: Men (7 Smidel): 1, G Elle (Lvepod) Harriers) 4 train 36sec; 2, P. Howarth (Warah) 41:54; 3, N Vergolassiem (Lvepod) Pembroke Selton) 43:26; 5, B Mangha (Swepod) Pembroke Selton) 43:26; 6, J Boardman (Lvepod) Pembroke Selton) 43:26; 6, J Boardman (Lvepod) Pembroke Selton) 43:26; 6, J Boardman (Lvepod) Pembroke Selton) 43:45, Thatme: 1, Lvepod) Pembroke Selton 37bts; 2, Liverpod; Handern 142; 3, Warai 153; Veitarant N Given (Warmington) 43:58, Ohjer-Sot; C. Stavin (Lvepod) Funding Club) 51:13; Wossen (Birm), 1, A Critical Club, 151:13; Wossen (Birm), 1, A Critical Club, 151:13; Wossen (Birm), 1, A Critical Club, 151:14; Casyon (Lvepod) Funding Club) 51:13; Wossen (Birm), 1, A Critical Club, 151:14; Casyon (Lvepod) Funding Club) 51:13; Wossen (Birm), 1, A Critical Club, 151:14; Casyon (Lvepod) Funding Club) 51:13; Wossen (Birm), 1, A Critical Club, 151:14; Casyon (Lvepod) Funding Club) 51:13; Wossen (Birm), 1, A Critical Club, 151:14; Casyon (Lvepod) Funding Club) 51:15; Casyon (Lvepod) Funding Club) 51:15; Casyon (Lvepod) Funding Club) 51:15; Casyon (Lvepod) Funding Club, 151:16; Casyon (Lvepod) Fund First division Abertillery 32 Tondu 14 Abertillery: Tries: Green, penany by, Stent, Thome, D Wilbarna Const: Withers 2 Pent: Winters. Tonduz Try: K Hocking Pens: Welch 3. Tries: Laurie 2, Nichol 2, Broughton, Henderson Pent Morris Biathlon Gloucester 31 Worcester 17 Gloucester Tries: Forty, Mapletot, Opmot, P Sairt-Andre. Cons Mapletoti. Penus Mapletoti 3 Worcester: Tries: Jenner, Richerdson. Const. Lley 2. Pen: Lley. Att. 7.136. POSTPONED: Grasgow Hawks v Kelso, Hawick v Boroughmur, Kilmamock v Mus-selburgh Blackwood 10 Ruraney Blackwood: Try: Laycock. Con: Brown Pen: Brown. Runney: Tries: L.Abdul Dav-es, George Con: Davies Tennent's Velvet Bowl Durwant 17 Bonymaen 12 Durwant Tries: Killa, Middleton, Const Daniel 2 Petr Daniel Bonymaen: Tries: M John, C Lewis Coar S Daniel Second division south 46 Esher First round Hartequins 45 Esher 10 Hartequins: Tries; O'Leery 3, Williams 2, Jerkhs, Lacrob: Const Litry 2, Schuster 2, Pens Schuster, Esher: Try: Bird Con: Grepory Pen: Gregory Att: 3,759 Kendiel 20 London Scot 25 Kendiel 70 London Scot 25 Lector 70 North Walsham 42 Met Police Plymouth 23 Tabard Weston-s-Mare 19 Havent Hamilton Acads 15 Whiteeralge John, Claws Con: 5 Daves Liandovery: 39 SW Police 8 Liandovery: Tries: 14 Jones 3, Staad, Wils Cons: Hancox 4 Pens: Hancox 2 South Wales Police: Try: C Rees, Pen: Cox 10 Newbridge 12 Research Try: A Lewis Con: R Davies, Per: A Davis, Newbridge: Tries: Adds. Hanco: Con: Wilsams Pontypool 44 UWIC 22 Second round SXI. SNOW REPORTS Scillaburgh Univ 41 Paistey Highland 13 Garnock Hitthools 29 Moray RAF Kinloss Strathendrick Wigtownshire 5 Corstorphine POSTPONED: Cheltenham v Norwich. POSTPONED: Chelsenham v Norwich. Fisher 15 14 0 1 508 163 28 N Walsham 16 13 0 3 347 181 26 Bracknell 15 13 0 2 377 201 28 Barking 15 12 0 3 362 178 24 Met Police 16 8 1 7 277 334 17 Norwich 15 8 0 7 229 215 16 Tabard 16 6 1 9 20 318 13 Rechulh 15 5 1 9 247 339 11 Plymouth 16 5 1 10 270 389 11 Plymouth 15 4 2 9 267 319 10 Cheltenham 15 4 1 10 229 276 3 10 Cheltenham 15 3 0 12 204 371 6 Havari 16 3 0 13 191 433 6 Depth Conditions /Westher Last (Crit) Nuns to (Con) Last 1 (Con) Conow

هكذ لمن رييمل

WINTER SPORTS Alpine skiing

CHLADMING, Austria: Men's World
Cup super-G: 1, B Rasch (Austra) 2mn
7 ú2sec (1 12.89, 1 14 13), 2, M von Grungen (Switz) 2.27 07, 11 12.46, 1, 14 61),
3, H Maer (Austria) 2.27-43, (1, 13.27, 1.14 16);
4, K.A. Asmoch (Nor) 2.27, 77, (1, 13.02, 1, 14.75), 5, H Krauss (Austria) 2.27, 95, (1, 12.66, 1, 15.29); 6, S. Locher (Switz) 2.28, 14 (1, 13.18, 1, 14.95; 7, S. Eberhaner (Austria) 2.28, 15, (1, 13.07, 1, 15.08), 8, A. Schrildere (Austria) 2.28, 16, (1, 13.39, 1, 14.77), 9, F. Nyberg (Swe) 2.28, 28, (1, 13.47, 17.48)), 10, J. Strob (Austria) 2.28, 26, (1, 13.47, 17.48), 10, J. Strob (Austria) 2.26, 11, 17.48), 10, J. Strob (Austria) 2.26, 11, 17.48), 10, J. Strob (Austria) 2.26, 11, 17.48), 10, J. Strob (Austria) 2.26, 13, Photon (10, 24, 4, Eberhanier 231; 5, Maer 221, 6, Aamoch 194, 7, Rach 188, 8, Krauss 161, 9, Kus 127, 10, Locher 126 Overall World Cup positions: 1, Maer 811pts, 2, Aamoch 603, 3, L. Kus (Nor) 592, 4, Eberhaner 564, 5, Mayer 553, 6, Krauss 454; 7, Von Grunigeri 391, 8, Raich 346, 9, Schrillerer 341, 10, J. Kosr (Slovakoa) 335

Blathion

OBERHOF, Germany: World Cup: Women (10km) 1. L Grele Skyebred (Nor) 34mm to 4sec (four penelly lags after shooting). 2. O Zuthniova (Ukr) +0.16.4 (2), 3. M Forsberg (Swe) +0.23 1 11), 4. P Wagenheim (Ger) +0.46 5 (1); 5. U Dist (Ger) +0.52.8 (5), 6. N Santer (t) +1.06.8 (2), 7. A Henkel (Ger) +1.10.5 (2), 8. A E Skyebred (Nor) +1.12.5 (2) 9. N Lemesch (Ukr) +1.13.2 (1), 10. C Nicogel (Fr) +1.14.9 (2) World Cup positions (after eight events) 1. Dist 1977ts. 2. Forsberg 191, 3. S. Grenner-Petter-Memm (Ger) 158. 4. L G Styebred (Nor) 149; 5. Nicoget 121. 6. Henkel 119; 7. A Achatowa (Russ) 111. 8. A E Skyebred (Nor) 104. 9. Kapel (Ger) 100. 10, Zeliner (Ger) 97. Mem (4x 7. Sem telay) 1. Germany (R Gross, P Sendel, S Fischer, F Luck) 1hr 2 min 31.5sec (D penelty lags after the shooting), 2. Russia (S Roschkov, V Dratischev, V Kunavev, V Malgurov) +42.05 (0), 3. Norway (E Gjelland, S Girnsdal, F Andresen, H Hanevolch) +127.8 (2), 4. Belans +1475 (1), 5. France +2.40.4 (1), 6. Slovenia +2.57.3 (0), 7. Poland +3.107 (0), 8. Czech Republic +3.34.9 (27.9. Japan +5.37.1 (1), 10. Ukrame +1.58.0 (1) Women (4.x. 7. Sum roley) 1. Germany (U Dist, S Grennar, Petter-Mamm, A Herikel, M Zeliner) 1hr 34mm 19.2sec (one penalty lap after shooting), 2. Russia (A Wolkova, O Romasko, A Achalova, N Talanovo) +0.54.0 (0), 3. Franco (D Hoymann-Burlel E Claret, A Briland, C Nicogel) +1.19.7 (2), 4. Warane +2.23.6 (2), 5. Czech Republic +4.04.2 (2), 6. Poland +4.38.6 (2), 7. Bulgan +5.54.3 (3). Disqualified: Nazaristan and Slovenia. Did not take part: Norway

POSTPONED: Cumbernauld v Dumlines. Forester FP v Duns

Tennent's Velvet Shield Second round

Annen 26 Ross High Berwick 99 Lenzie Irvine 5 Hawick Linden Schidrik 96 Howe of Pite St Boswells 11 Gienrothes

POSTPONED: String County v Stewart's Mel FP. Glasgow Southern v Gordonians, Jed-Forest v Duntermine

Biackrock Coli 15 Clontari Buccaneers 11 St Marye Garryowen 24 Cork Const Lexadowne 25 Gatroglams Young Munster 9 Shannon

PWDLFAPts

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Treorchy 32 Merthyr

Figure skating

TOKYO: Honda Lew Cup (one-day international) Women: 1, M kwan (US) 1.5 total factored placings. 2, M Butyrskaya (Russ) 3.0; 3, I Stutskaya (Russ) 4.5; 4, Y Sato (Japan) 6.0, 5, F Suguri (Japan) 7.5, 6, C kadavy (US) 9.0. Ment: 1, Y Plushenko (Russ) 1.5; 2, A Yagudin (Russ) 3.5, 3, T Editerige (US) 4.0, 4, K Browning (Can) 6.5; 5, T Honda (Japan) 7.0, 6, B Orser (Can) 9.0. Pairss 1, E Berechnaya and A Skhanufatza (Rusc) 1.5; 2, M Wootzel and I Steuer (Gent 3.0; 3, k Ina and J Zimmarman (US) 4.5. Dance: 1, M Usova and E Piatov (Russ) 2.0; 2, M Drobazko

SUPERSPORT SERIES: Third day of four Durbans Free State 296 and 43-0. Na-ial 554-5 day fit D.J. Watson 155, J. Kert. 109 not cut, D.M. Benkenstein 104 not out, M.L. Bruyrs 61). East Londons Gauteng 198 and 334 (S.G. Koeng 95, K.R. Rutherlond 74, A.J. Hall 53, T. Henderson 5-51). Border 198 and 95-2. Klimbertey: Northern Titares 255 and 190-5 dec (M. van Jassveid 67, M.J. R. Rindel 51). Gnoustand West 123 and 37-4. Port. Elizabeth: Eastern Province 220 and 159 (E. Strions 5-43), Western Province 239 and 95-3 (G. Kirsten 53 not out)

and P Vanagas (Lith) 4 0; 3, N Tsuzulo (Js-pan) and R Farkhouldinov (Russ) 6 0

Nordic skiing

PLESO, Stovakia: World Cup com-bined event (slu jumping and a 15km cross-country race) 1 B E Vik (Nor) 39min 57 5sec in cross-country, 244 Opris cross-country race) T B E Vit (Nor) 39min 57 Seet in cross-country, 244 Opra in sta jumping, 2, K Brazilen (Nor) at 32 9sec/235 5, 3, F Gottwald (Austria) 1.17 6/222 0, 4, T Lodwick (US) 1:29 6/224 0; 5, F Beene Lundberg (Nor) 2.11 0/218.0, 7, J Tallus (Fin) 1.47 6/231 0; 6, F Beene Lundberg (Nor) 2.11 0/218.0, 7, J Tallus (Fin) 2.21 1/237 5, 8 A Harrmann (Switz) 2:50 0/229.0, 9 M Kucera (Cz) 2:55 6/228 5, 10, KT Appland (Nor) 3:00.3/205 0, Leading overalt positions (atternine versits), 1, Vit. 1.105(s); 2, Manninen (Fin) 1,002; 3, Gottwald 667, 4, Lajunen 581, 5, Hartmann 555, 6, Lodwick 497, 7, L Ryg) (C2) 497, 8, D Smitzyn (Russ) 484, 9, K Brazilen (Nor) 480, 10, A Fadeev (Russ) 465

NOVE MESTO NA MORAVE, Czech Republic: World cup cross-country: Men (15km): 1, Baehle (Nor) 42mm 27.4sc., 2 E Jevne (Nor) 42 47 1, 3, E Bernor (Nor) 42.58.1, 4, F May (t) 42 58 8, 5, F Oloisson (Swe) 42 58 9, 6, M Fredriksson (Swe) 43 02 2; 7 1 Batory (Slovakar) 43.11.3, 8, O-B Hjehneseth (Nor) 43 40 7, 9, V Vinoz (Fr) 43 42.7, 10, k Hetarnaki (Fri) 43 45 7 Leading overall positions: 1, Daehle 480ps, 2, Fredriksson 348, 3 Bervig 290; 4, Eletsson 267, 5, M Botwinov (Austral) 236; 6, Jevne 204, 7, J Isomelsa (Frii) 200, 8, M Mytha (Frii) 169; 9, A Bergstroem (Swe) 143; 10 Batory 135, Women (10km), 1, B Martinsen (Nor) 30mm 57 4soc; 2, K Neumannova (C2) 31 00.5, 3, S Nagesiana (Fuss) 31.22.9, 4, S Behmando (ft) 31 26.1, 5, N Gevrijuk (Russ) 31:37 0; 6, K Smigun (Est) 31.47.2; 7, J Tchepelova (Fuss) 31.48, 3; 8, A Rezisova (Russ) 32.0, 1, Leading overall positions: 1, Martinsen 484pts, 2, Neumannova 410, 3 2011, Leading overall positions: 1, Bernordo 288, 8, Leading overall positions: 1, Bernordo 288, 8, Leading overall (Russ) 25, 7 Bernordo 288, 2, Leading (Russ) 255, 7 Bernordo 288, 2, Leading (Russ) 255, 9, Nagelkina 202, 10, Rezisova 181 NOVE MESTO NA MORAVE, Czech Re**AMERICAN** FOOTBALL

Davis runs Denver close to the top prize

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE Denver Broncos moved to within one victory of a return to the Super Bowl with a 38-3 win over the Miami Dolphins on Saturday. The reigning champions will host the American Football Conference (AFC) title game on January 17 against either the New York Jets or the Jacksonville Jaguars for a trip to the game's showpiece on January

Terrell Davis, the National Football League (NFL) rushing champion, who was kept to a season-low 29 yards by the Dolphins defence in De-cember, ran for 199 yards and two touchdowns to spark the rout. He scored twice in the first quarter after runs of one and 20 yards and Derek Loville added another on an Il-yard break in the second quarter to give Denver a 21-3 lead at half-time.

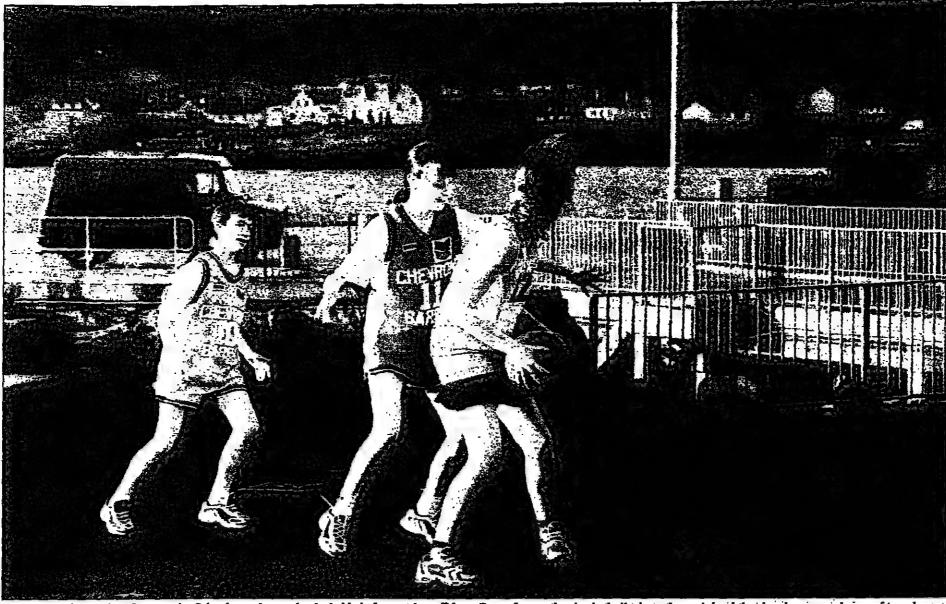
Early in the third quarter, Davis raced 62 yards to set up Jason Elam's 32-yard field goal and complete the fourthbest rushing performance in NFL play-off history. In the final quarter, Rod Smith caught a 28-yard touchdown pass from John Elway, the Denver quarterback, and Neil Smith returned a fumble 79 yards to complete the victory.

Dan Marino, the Miami

quarterback, was unable to recapture the form that saw him throw for 355 yards and four touchdowns in Miami's regular-season triumph over Denver. He threw for 243 yards, but was intercepted three times, in contrast to Elway, who threw for 182 yards and a touchdown.

The Atlanta Falcons survived a late flourish by the San Francisco 49ers to book their first-ever appearance in the National Football Conference (NFC) championship game with a 20-18 win at the Georgia Dome. Atlanta, who had won only two play-off games in their 33-year history, beat the five-times Super Bowl champions in style, with Jamal Anderson rushing for 113 yards and two touchdowns.

After Atlanta achieved their tenth consecutive victory, Dan Reeves, the coach, said: "To get to this point is beyond our have got a chance," he said. "We just need to take it to the next step."



Girls of Castlebay Community School practise on the dockside before setting off from Barra for another basketball trip to the mainland that involves many hours of travel

Living a Hebridean hoop dream

member of Scotland's wom-en's basketball team, was taught her basic skills far from the capital, for she is a native of Barra, the southernmost island of the Outer Hebrides. Basketball was unknown on the island until it was intro-

duced at Castlebay Community School by John MacCallium, the sole physical education teacher, a decade ago. Until that time, PE was a very basic subject, taught in the Church of Scotland Fishermen's Rest. With the completion of a games hall and a swimming pool, a new era opened up for the 105 pupils in the senior secondary department.

MacCallum is not native to the island but moved there a. quarter of a century ago. He and his family had fallen in there after a holiday on the windswept dot in the Atlantic where crofting, fishing and trophies, despite having to en-

tourism are the economic mainstays. Today, there is a good range of sporting activi-ties for the pupils, including football, swimming, cross-country running, sailing, windsurfing, canoeing and the tra-ditional Celtic game of shinty. which has been successfully reintroduced - but basketball is the sport that has brought success and respect to the school.

entered national competitions,

it was the boys who collected

in schools

Coll Macdougall explains why isolation is proving no sporting barrier to the children of Barra

dure a five-hour ferry trip to the mainland followed by a minibus journey of at least 100 miles before reaching a compe-Looking back to those days.

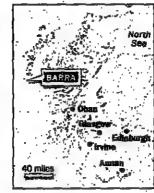
MacCallum said: "I quickly realised that teams could not give of their best after such a long period of travel. Now I arrange that we leave home in the early hours of Friday morning to arrive in Oban, the mainland ferry port, around 5am. We then board a minibus to head to places such as Annan, Irvine or Edinburgh. When we arrive, we have a rest before playing a friendly match and relaxing for the rest of the day. We play our compe-

el home the following day." Teenage boys are few in

present and so the girls have had to take over responsibility for preserving the school's en-vied basketball reputation but there are not too many of them, either. The under-15 team has only seven possible participants and all seven make up the team. At under-14 level, the situation is better, allowing competition for team

Each trip to the mainland costs between £350 and £400. This is funded by a grant from the Western Isles Council minibus fund, school funds and a personal contribution from each player of between £15 and E20. However, there are addieducational benefits

Dealer West



from these forays to the mainland, as Katie Beggs, 14, pointed out. "We learn a lot about the geography of Scotland, about the lifestyles of opposing teams and about ourselves."

MacCallum agrees. There is a confident air and a pleasing degree of articulary about the normally reticent island children. Despite none of the girls

N-S game Rubber bridge

being 6ft 7in giants, they have enjoyed numerous successes over the years and most trips go smoothly — although, occa-sionally, there are hitches, as McCallum explained.

"One winter's night, we

were returning to Oban to catch a late-night ferry when our minibus broke down in snow 25 miles from the port. I managed to get transport for the children, but knew I had to get the vehicle running again and back to Oban. This took quite some time and I expected to miss the ferry. However, the children staged a sit-down on the gangway and refused to budge until I had arrived. Fortunately, the crew, mostly islanders, were very mierant of the youngsters and did nothing to forceably remove them.
I was astonished at their loyal. ty to me, but it made every-thing I've done for them so

much more worthwhile."

Powerful Linden ease past rivals

By CATHY HARRIS

LINDEN'S position at the top of the table was never in danger as they cruised to a 65-19 victory over Harborne, their local rivals, to maintain their unbeaten run in the national

clubs league yesterday.
Rarely threatened, the champions comfortably won each quarter and effectively killed off the contest when they took the third quarter 19-2 Sandra Turner, from Ireand, and Lisa Topliss, of England, Linden's two former in-ternationals, shared the goalscoring for their team, which dominated completely, despite being without Olivia Murphy.

The bronze medal some at the Company and the Company and the Company and the Company and the Company at the Company and the Company

at the Commonwealth Games was attending an England training weekend, but the Birmingham side are resigned to the fact that Murphy will miss the rest of the club season. Murphy is one of four players who leave for New Zeiland next month after accepting invitations to play in a club cup competition. The other three are Naomi Siddall, Amanda Newton and Helen Lonsdale. Outstanding displays by Tracey Horton, the Tongham goalkeeper, and Caroline
Horne, the shooter, saw the
newcomers send Wyvern siding to a disappointing 4750
defeat. Missing Chrissie
Maskell and Michelle Sawart, both England squad monbers, and with Debbie Savery, their shooter, taken ill. Wyvern were always strugging

to seize the initiative. Rose St Louis and Cathy Deplessis, the Hirondelleside fenders, played a full game together for the first time as the Surrey club beat Academy 53-45. Gilly Staines, normally a defender for Surrey, school lo goals and Helen Skartek's 37 goals steered the team to

victory. Hirondelles move up to second spot, shead of Wyvers, af-ter Oakwood staged a magnificent late recovery to beat New Cambell 64-60. Trailing 4-51 going in to the last quater, the Middlesex side three a succession of long passes to Lesley isaacs, the goal shoot-er, side converted the frances with uncring accuracy to send the former league vinners to a second defeat.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICE OFFSECRE PETROLEUM AND PITE-LINES (ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EMPETS) EEGREATIONS 1998

The Acrounteral Morane orperation PLC and AMC Bank Lingued announce that with effect from ៊ី January 1999 មកទ further notice AMC's bu MC Direct AMC House Cliantry Street, Andores Hampshire SPIG IDD ्रिला भाउरम् इतेनधर्मः 🐔

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remain up make a distribution to the creditors of the company which four months from 19 February 1999. Creditors are required to rubmit full details of their cleans to the liquidance at FO Res 730, 20 Fardingdon Street, Loudon ROMA 427 United Ringdom on or before 19 February 1999 which is the heat day for proving cleans. The full details of their cleans, reserved to above, most include of claims, retered to above, most include the termitor's name and atthess, the amount of the claim and particulars of how and when the debt was incurred by the company. Company.

Notice is also given that the in-berded distribution is a final di-inflation and will be not attractive regard to any claims not saids by the less day for proving claims. All funds municipal in the liquide-lay's liquide indicating the final dis-tribution to coeffice shall be dis-minated as absundading abundang.

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MAIL-ORDER LIMITED AND IN
THE MATTER OF BRE
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NOTICE IS BERKENY GIVEN PREPARED IN 1986 that on 21 December 1996 I, SURJIT KUMAR SINGLA of Shages & Company, 6-7
Queen Strove, London, ECSN 198
was appointed Liquidator of the above-remain company by the mambers and creditors.
Signed Surjik Emmar Single Liquidator
dator

LIMITED 1916117 CALL IN MEDIRESE VOLUMENTARY LIQUIDATION
NOTICE TO CHERTOCHE
CA 22 December 1998 the above
named companies were placed in
Members Volumenty Liquidation
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Coopers were appointed joint Liqphilatest by the sharehelmen.
The Liquidators give action ender
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of any claim segment the companies to the Liquidators, at No 1
London Stidge, Landon STI 901,
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Liquidators also give notice that
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All know creditions days been de
will be paid in fell.
Date 22 December 1998
G Rittl fold Liveticities.

Dare 22 December 1998 C G Bird Join Liquidator. G Sind Join Liquidator.

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Notes the conspany is able to pay all known craditors in full Dated: 5 features 1999 5 7 rations - John Liquidistor

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SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT This is an entertaining deal involving four of the best players in the TGR high game.

♣ QJ876

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O 10982 4 AK **♣** 532 4 AK1094 ♥AK9876 ♥ Q1042 ♦ K765 _S_ CLOAC +J10765432 Courtney Double 4 NT Pagg 5 C PESS 5 S 6 C 5 H

Contract: Six Clubs doubled, by South. Lead: ace of spades. After West's Acol Two Heart opening, what do you think East should bid? Traditionally a single raise is forcing and shows a side ace and/or the king of trumps. On that basis East should bid Four Hearts on the first round, showing some trump support and a few bits and pieces, but

denying an ace. South tried Three Spades over Three Hearts to draw a spade lead against a high heart contract. It looks a risky manoeuvre to me - in some auctions South will not have the chance to show his clubs conveniently. However, as the auction developed North only showed his spade support at the five level, so South was able to get out into Six Clubs. I don't think West should

double that. West knows East has no aces after his response to Blackwood. West also knows that North has length in spades, as he has bid Five Spades even after South has been doubled in Three Spades. Hence the news that South is void in spades comes over quite clearly. It is still possible South might be losing a heart and a minorsuit trick, but even so I think West should pass. As it happens, the winning action for East-West is to sacrifice in Six Hearts.

There is a point of technique in the play of Six Clubs, which I will discuss tomorrow.

□ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

HUTUNG a. A throw in ju-jitsu b. Raw fish c. An alley

MAESTRIA a. Musical direction: sadly c. The swamps around Rome

MORAN a. Warriors

b. A defensive ditch c. An ancient shin-pad **NUNC STANS** a. Now b. A menhir

c. A Masonic shibboleth Answers on page 46



BY RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Sokolov's victory

Ivan Sokolov dominated the Hastings Premier tournament. winning by a clear two points over the rest of the field. In the final round he defeated James Plaskett.

White: Ivan Sokolov Black: James Plaskett Hastings Premier 1999 English Defence

e6. 2 c4 6 a3 7. 54 MG 8 65 Be7 10 Bb2 12: Bes1 No6 13 b5 14 66 8c8 16 Be2 17 Nn5 Nd5 18 0-0 Bb7 21. Bg4 22 Bxs6+ KhR 23 Re1 **Bb4** 24 Qg4 25 045

29 807 ----The final results 1st, Sokolov (7 points out of 9 games); 2nd equal, Sadier, Erims, Spectinan, Ponomari-ov and Shipov (all 5 points); 7th equal. Plaskett. Pressinct and Miles (all 3.5 points); 10th.

Amateur champion Jessie Gilbert, II, has become the youngest-ever winner of an adult title by taking the women's section of the amateur world championship, which

finished at Hastings on Friday, In achieving this feat, she defeated opposition from 13 num-tries. This follows two excellent results when Jessie won the London under 12 and under-14 titles after Christmas. As a result of her achievement in taking the senior world title. Jessie has beome a last-minute nominee to the list of candidates for the Brain Trust Charity's brain of the year award,

with a £20,000 first prize. Other nominees include Anatoly Karpov, the champi-on of Fide, the world chess federation; Andi Bell, the reigning world memory champion: and John Glenn, the American astronaut. The award ceremony takes place in London on Friday.

Keene online You can send me your queries, puzzles, problems and games direct by e-mail. The address is keenechess@aol.com. The

best contributions will be published here or in the Saturday
Times Weekend column: Times book The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily col-

umn in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B.T. Barsford Ltd (tel: 01797 369966 at £6.99 plus postage and packing) Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in

Sport and in the Wedkend section on Saturday.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

tly improve on this?

Saltaev (2.5 points).

White to play. This position is from the game Liss-Mashian, Tel Aviv. 1998. Here, White would like to continue I, Qh2or 1, Qh4 and give mate along the h-file. However, Black meets both of those tries with 1.... Bh5. How can White sub-

Solution on page 46

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METBALL

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THE TIMES

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OTHER FINANCIAL

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which takes in Gates and Stant,

the makers of windscreen wiper

blades and engine-timing belts.

Analysts will also be looking

hard at the Rank Hovis McDou-

commodity prices and reduced

its acquisition programme.

various acquisitions.

Apart from the figures, the

Tomkins has intimated that it

The group has already indicat-

An interim dividend of about

the corresponding period.

A strong performance is expect-

ed from the betting office chain,

while casinos should have bene-

fited from a useful increase in

consumer spending.

Merrill is worried that senti-

ment towards the shares could be

affected if the rival London Clubs

succeeds this month in its

application for a casino licence in Luton. This would bring London Clubs head to head against

Stanley in an important area for

The payout is expected to grow

ed its interest in buying parts of



TODAY

Interims: Pace Micro Technology, Tomkins, Tried. Finals: Denmans Electrical, Fyffes, Hacas, Group, PWS Holdings, RCO Holdings. Economic statistics: November industrial/manufacturing output, December producer price index, Confederation of British Industry fourth-quarter financial services summary, Institute of Directors quarterly business opinion survey.

TOMORROW

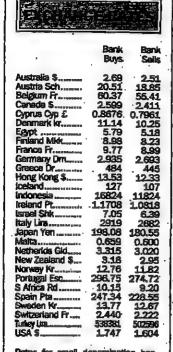
Interims: Bespak, Savills, Wyko Group. Finals: Bullough. Economic statistics: British Retail Consortium December retail sales

WEDNESDAY

Interkus; Dixons Group, Fl Group, Helton Holdings, Vega Group. Finals: none scheduled. labour market report. THURSDAY

Interims; Stanley Leisure, FImais: Greenwich Resources, ML Laboratories. Economic statistics: none scheduled. FRIDAY

Interims: none scheduled, Finais; none scheduled, Econo statistics; none scheduled,





Dixons offers high street clues

DIXONS GROUP: Half-year results due on Wednesday from the electrical consumer goods retailer will be a highlight of the week for those seeking clues as to the state of high street spending.

Brokers expect what, at first sight, will appear to be a flat performance from Dixons, with pre-tax profits either little changed or slightly down on the E77.6 million achieved during the corresponding period last year. The payout to shareholders is expected to grow from

2.9p to 3.35p.

However, these results compare with a strong performance last year that saw the company. whose chairman is Sir Stanley Kalms, benefit from the various building society demutualisation windfalls.

Any benefits from recent inter-est rate cuts are unlikely to mate-rialise until the second half, or early in the group's next finan-

cial year.
Close attention will obviously be paid to any comments made by the group about Christmas trading. Like-for-like sales last year were down about 4 per cent, with sales of personal computers proving dull.

This time analysts are forecast-ing a rise of between 3 per cent and 4 per cent, although Nick Bubb, of SG Securities, the broker, admits that there is scope for

Mr Bubb is looking for pre-tax profits of £74.5 million, which falls around the middle of the range as far as most forecasts from City analysts are concerned.

Retailing generally is likely to have been dull, with the bulk of any growth achieved coming from a wide range of new prod-ucts, ranging from mobile telephones to personal computers and fax machines.

Sales of personal computers enjoyed useful growth in the second half of last year and the momentum will have been carried over into the six months under review. This growth will have been achieved against a backdrop of lacklustre competition and of price deflation.



Sir Stanley Kalms, a leading figure in Business for Sterling, rings up Dixons's results on Wednesday

which will have put pressure on

The number of subscribers for the group's Freeserve Internet joint venture with Energis is expected to have grown to about one million, although the financial benefits to Dixons may be somewhat limited at this stage.

At the last count, Dixons had about £500 million in the bank, and brokers maintain that the abolition of advance corporation tax may provide scope for a redistribution among shareholders.

such as Chiquita Brands and

In 1997 it achieved a victory

when a WTO panel ruled against the EU regime, but Washington still believes that

a reform package put together in Brussels is inadequate. In December the US published a

list of products, ranging from Pecorino cheese to chande-liers, that would be targeted

with 100 per cent tariffs.

Mr Wilson said: "We are urg-

ing the United States to think

again before it is too late, drop

its threatened action and pursue its case through the WTO."
The US has been resisting suggestions by the EU that the

new regime be referred to a

WTO panel because the proce-

dure could take the best part of

lieve that the US threat

amounts to illegal unilateral

action. The US is required to

request authorisation for its retaliatory action after January 21. However, Brussels has

1.6401 (-0.0239)

However, EU officials be-

TOMKINS: Half-year results from the guns to buns group, due to be published today, should show pre-tax profits of between £225 million and £235 million. That compares with profits of E214.9 million last time.

SG Securities, the broker, is looking for the group's half-time pre-tax profits to emerge at about

Back in November, Tomkins issued an update on its trading and described it as being "in line with expectations". The company

said that its aim was to expand both organically and through acquisition. Despite this, brokers have been reducing their profit forecasts of late, in response to a slowdown in industrial and automotive markets.

The consensus for the group's full year to April 1999 is now pitched at about £525 million, compared with £530 million

Brokers will want to establish what impact last year's strike at General Motors has had on the ECONOMIC GUILDOK

Jobs figures in spotlight

cut rates last Thursday, but with the City convinced that further action is needed, the debate has already begun as to whether the Monetary Policy Committee

will reduce rates again next month.

The vital statistics this week will be the Labour market data on Wednesday. The Bank said in a statement on Thursday that it now believed wages pressures are easing. Confirmation in this data that unemployment is beginning to rise rapidly will bolster hopes of a February cut. The market consensus is that the claimant count measure of unemployment will have risen by 10,000 in November, with the unemployment rate standing unchanged at 4.6 per cent.

Although there will be no average earnings data — the series is currently suspended — the City will interpret such a rise in unemployment as the definitive turning point in the labour market.

The industrial production and producer prices data, which are published today, will confirm the extent of the difficulties in the manufacturing sector. City economists, who are predicting that fourth-quarter GDP will show the first contraction since 1992, will cast a particularly keen eye on the data that are vital constituents of the GDP figures.

Analysts expect manufacturing output to record a fall of 0.3 per cent between October and November, ensuring the annual rate of growth shows a contraction for the second consecutive month. Overall industrial production is expected to show a

small 0.4 per cent annual rise.

The producer prices data should show raw material prices continuing to decline. with input prices down by 8.3 per cent compared with December the previous year. Factory gate prices are expected to show no annual growth, having risen by 0.2 per cent between November and December. The BRC sales monitor, to be published tomorrow, should confirm the mixed

Christmas performance on the high street.

ALASDAIR MURRAY

SUNDAY TIPS

The Sunday Times: Buy Savills, Gresham Computing. The Sunday Telegraph: Buy Scottish Radio Holdings, Peterhouse Group, TT Group. The Mail on Sunday. Buy J Sainsbury, Great Universal Stores. Scottish & Southern Energy, Racal Electronics. The Express on Sunday: Buy Anite,

heavy casualties from 'banana war'

By CARL MORTISHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

THE Scottish knitwear indus- day. Mr Wilson said: "Britain try is being threatened with mass redundancies because of trade dispute between Europe and the United States over the import of bananas.

Knitwear firms are already feeling the effects of a threat by the US to impose punitive tariffs on a list of European imports, which include cashmere pullovers. The hard-pressed Borders firms could lose up to 900 jobs from the imposition of 100 per cent duty on imports

Britain's Trade Minister, Brian Wilson, reckons the UK could lose £82 million of exports from the US action, which has been launched in retaliation to the EU's banana regime, labelled discriminatory by Washington. He said: "The biggest single category is cashmere knitwear." In an effort to head off a tit-

for-tat trade war, Brussels is calling for a panel meeting at a summit of the World Trade Organisation in Geneva on Tuesis supporting a fast-track adju-dication procedure. I am acute-

a US order worth £1.5 million on hold pending a decision by Washington to proceed with

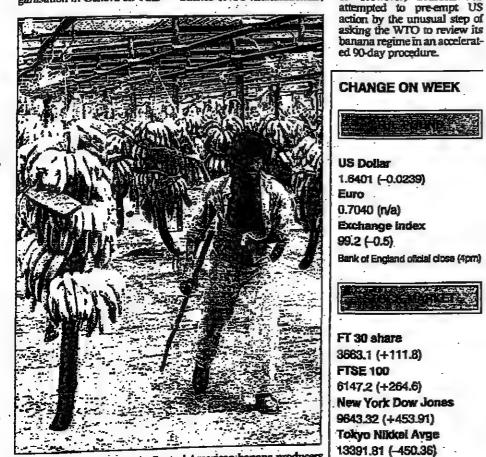
for at least a decade what it be-lieves is an illegal quota system favouring banana produc-ers from former EU colonies in the Caribbean and Africa. The Americans claim that

the quota system discriminates against producers from Central America. Although the US produces no bananas. it has a huge financial interest in Central and South American produce because of the in-fluence of US multinationals,

ly aware of the problems faced. through no fault of their own, by companies which export products on the American list. Every effort is being made to head off implementation of the threatened retaliation."

Clan Douglas, a knitwear firm, is already suffering, with

The US has been fighting



The US plans action to help Central American banana producers.

Knitwear firms face OFT rejects calls for loan rates ceiling

from 1.4p to 1.6p.

JOHN BRIDGEMAN, Director-General of Fair Trading. has rejected calls for the introduction of a statutory maximum rate of interest to protect the poor from exploitation from loan sharks and other

The lack of an official definition of what is an extortionate interest rate will dissappoint pressure groups that have lob-bied the Office of Fair Trading to introduce such a measure during its year-long inquiry into how the poor and other vulnerable people are treated by the financial servic-

unscrupulous lenders.

es industry. However, Mr Bridgeman is

By GAVIN LUMSDEN preparing to make other recommendations when the OFT report is published on Wednes-

day. These will be aimed at helping low earners and people from ethnic minorities as well as the disabled and elderly to get good value financial service and advice. One of the factors behind

the report is the fact that one in five people in the UK is unable to get bank accounts. As a result people are rejected by credit card and insurance companies and are more likely to turn to back street lenders.

The Money Advice Associa-tion (MMA) has long been alarmed by the activities of

door-to-door lenders operating in many of the country's most deprived communities. It believes a statutory interest rate ceiling is essential to stop people being sucked into loans that sometimes end up charging an annual percentage rate (APR) of 3,000 per cent.

Dr Evan Harris, Liberal Democrat MP for Oxford West and Abingdon, is planning to table an early day motion in the House of Commons later this month calling for a ceiling to be set.

John Lammerdee of the Consumer Credit Association dismissed the MAA's figures as scaremongering.



Bridgeman: recommendations for good value financial service

Lloyds Bank Savings Interest Rates for Personal Customers

Installment	PTETAL	MEN		(TOYALC) PICK				Service Investment	PTE	THOUS		Labour				
Account*	AER/Gross %	AER/Gross %	Net %	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Net %	Account	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Net %		
£100,000+	5.80	5.55	4.44	5.55	5.41	5.30	5.18	4.14	E100,000+	5.70	5.56	5.45	5.32	4.25		
€ 50,000+	5.40	5.15	4.12	5.15	5.03	4.90	4.79	3.83	£ 50,000+	5.30	5.18	5.05	4.94	3.95		
£ 25,000+	5.05	4,80	3.84	4.80	4.70	4.55	4.46	3.57	€ 25,000+	4.95	4.84	4.70	4.60	3.68		
£ 10,000+	4.65	4.40	3.52	4.40	4.31	4.15	4.07	3.26	£ 10,000+	4.55	4.46	4.30	4.22	3.37		
									Below £10,000	2.30	2.28	1.95	1.93	1.55		
		Annual				Quarterly										
festant Gold Savings	Previous	Nav	,	Previous New					Quarterly							
Account"	AER/Gross %	AER/Gross %	Net %	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Not %	Young Savers	Pre	vious		New			
£50,000+	5.25	5.00	4.00	4.75	4.67	4.75	4.67	3.73	Account	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Net %		
£25,000+	4.70	4.45	3.56	4.45	4.38	4.20	4.14	3.31	£I+	3.55	3.50	3.55	3.50	2.80		
£10,000+	4.40	4.15	3.52	4.15	4.09	3.90	3.84	3.08	ACCOUNTS NO LONGE	R AWAD ARI F	POR NEW REISING	95				
£ 2,500+	4.05	3.80	3.04	3.B0	3.75	3.55	3.50	2.80		1		Monthly				
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Flexible Savings	Previous New			Pres	rious	New			Account	AER %	Gross %		1.25	Net %		
Account (numb)	AER/Gross %			AER %	Come %	AFR %	Gross %	Net %	2500+	1.51	1.50	1.26		1.00		
£10,000+	3.05	2.70	2.16	2.80	2.76	2.45	2.42	1.94	E250+	1.26	1.25	1.00	1.00	0.80		
C 5,000+	2.55	2.20	1.76	2.30	2.28	1.95	1.93	1.55	£100+	1.00	1.00	0.75	0.75	0.60		
					2.03	1.75	1.74	1.39	£ 50+	0.50	0.50	0.25	0.25	0.20		
£ 500+	2.30	2.00	1.60	2.05		0.20	0.20	0.16	€ 1+	0.25	0.25	0.20	0.20	0.16		
Below £500	0.20	0.20	0.16	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.10		_		-4				
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TESSA	-			AER/Ex Free %					Account	AER %	Gross %	AER %	Gross %	Net %		
Af Balances		6.15%	5.80					E 1+	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.20			

AER stands for Annual Equivalent Rate and is the notional rate which illustrates the gross or tax-free rate as if paid and compounded on an annual basis. As every advert for a swings product will contain an AER you will be able to compare more easily what return you can expect from your savings over time. GROSS — Gross rate is the contractual rate of interest payable before the deduction of income tax at the rate specified by law. NET — The rate of interest which would be payable after allowing for the deduction of income tax at the rate specified by law. NET — The rate of interest which would be payable where interest is exampt from income tax, interest is normally paid at the net rate, unless the Account talls within an exempt category or the Account-holder qualifies to receive interest gross.

Special New Year offer. Open a Young Severs Account for your child by 29 January 1999 and receive double the normal rate of interest until the year 2000 - 7.00% at current rates for balances up to £2,000. Details and full terms and conditions are available from your local branch.

Details of current savings rates are available by calling 0845 300 0102. Alternatively, visit our website - www.lloydsbank.co.uk

These rates of interest apply with effect from 11 January 1999



Part of the Lloyds TSB Group

THE FACTS

Turnover: £3.5 billion. Pre-tax profit: £740 million; market cap, £6.4 billion; employees, 4,300.

Overview: Britain's biggest nonnuclear generator, National Power has a strong international presence, it has been spending overseas as its domestic market is squeezed by competitors and government demands that it sells some power stations. Brands: National Power, Midlands Electricity.

THE BOARD

Sir John Collins took over the chairmanship of National Power last year from John Baker, who had moved on from an occasionally controversial spell as chief executive. Sir John, who was until 1993 chairman and chief executive of Shell UK, is a director of BSkyB and of NM Rothschild and is chairman

of Cantab Pharmaceuticals. Keith Henry became chief executive in 1995, after being recruited from Brown & Root, of which he was chief executive, He is a non-executive director of Enterprise Oil.

Roger Witcomb, finance director, has been with the generator since 1990, when he joined the company from BP. Another recruit from BP is Graham Brown, commercial director. He managed BP's crude oil and products trading division before joining National Power in 1994.

Brian Count, operations and technology director, rose through the ranks of the pre-privatised Central Electricity Generating Board. He was appointed to National Power's board three years ago.

Andrew Swanson is National Power's company

Max Herbert is an international director, for the Asia Pacific region, and Peter Windsor is international director for the western hemisphere.

National Power's nonexecutive directors include: Sir Alastair Morton, the former chairman of Eurotunnel and the new railway tsar; and Brandon Gough, the man brought in by Yorkshire Water to shake things up after its poor performance during the 1995 drought.

T / hen National Power recently put up for sale its giant Drax power station, a sea change was signalled for the once-mighty generator.

Here was a company that. iust after privatisation, commanded 46 per cent of English and Welsh power production and is now dressing up its biggest and best plant for disposal.

The move, ordered by the Government, will leave National Power with about 12 to 13 per cent of electricity output after one of the most dramatic losses of market share suffered by any

The sale, along with that forced upon PowerGen, was an attempt by the Department of Trade and Industry to stir up competition in electricity generation - part of the power industry that has faced a tide of complaints for high charges and the ability of two, and later three, companies to set power prices. Since the inefficient fragmentation of the industry by the Conservatives to

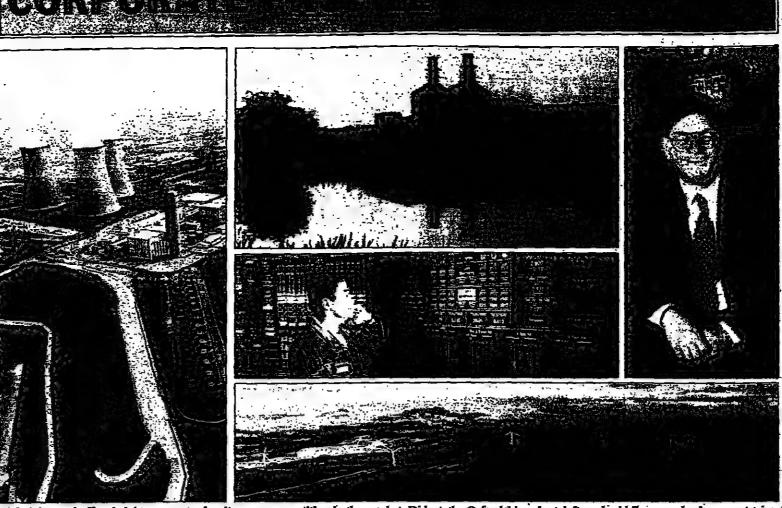
prepare it for sale, the genera-tors have been dogged with controversy over market dominance, have been dealt two orders to sell power stations and have faced a short-lived nrice cap. Once the Drax sale is com-

plete, National Power should be able to put behind it much of the regulatory uncertainty that has hung over the company since privatisation. At least that ls what Keith Henry, chief executive, believes. "Drax has to be the last thing we ever divest in this country." he said.

The company will be much smaller in the UK, but able to spend freely overseas, where it has directed much of its attention for several years. It has already invested £1.5 billion in power projects across the globe, from Houston to Bangkok and Sydney.

A clearer picture of the way forward for National Power will make life easier for Mr Henry, who was largely hired by John Baker, the previous chief executive and until last year National Power's chairman, for his international enthusiasm.

Mr Henry has been frustrated by the level of uncertainty and government involvement in generation, which is not even a regulated area. "It is very difficult managing such a downsizing and one that comes out of the blue," he said. "We had thought that the first plant divestment |of 4.000 megawaits three years ago] was a final ar-



Global demand offers bright prospects, despite more competition in the market. Didcot, the Oxfordshire plant, left, and middle, second column, outstrips Bangladesh's output, Under Keith Henry, right, National Power's interests include the Little Barford power plant, top, and Kirkby Moor wind farm, bottom

rangement and then came another one. It would have been much better if the industry had been privatised more in the shape of how it is now, rather than ad hoc restructuring."

National Power responded to the latest demand to sell another 4,000 megawatts by saying that it wished to buy a regional electricity company's supply business. Separating out supply is still not strictly possible as laws have not been passed to divide the businesses. However, it is thought that the Department of Trade and industry and the energy regulator will approve plans.

National Power has often been unfavourably compared with its former generating sibling PowerGen, and seen as humbering behind its more dynamic and high-profile rival. This has largely been down to domestic strategy. PowerGen has always been mustard-keen to buy a regional electricity company and to become vertically

integrated - controlling power from the power station to the

household plug. Three years ago PowerGen bid for Midlands Electricity, and National Power followed with a takeover attempt on Southern Electric. Both bids were blocked by Ian Lang, then Trade and Industry Secretary. The Labour Government proved more receptive - allowing PowerGen's takeover last

year of East Midlands. National Power's purchase of Midlands' supply business launched last November - was different. It had steered away from paying for the whole pack-age of distribution and supply

The company is far more commercially orientated and is not resting on its laureis. It is not expecting things to work for it because it is a big player. There are signs that National Power has turned the

Andy Stone, Banque Nationale de Paris

"Its difficulty arises from two mistakes it made in 1995: failure to anticipate the impact on the UK electricity market of the Uberalisation of the gas market; and substantially underestimating the difficulties of building a power business overseas. As a result, it increased its dividend by 49 per cent in 1995, as it thought prospects were far rusier than it had any right to expect. It will be pushed to maintain the current level of dividend." Tony White, Dresdner Kleinwort Benson - the two operations that make up a regional business.

The generator's idea was to buy its way into a customer base without also taking on a heavily regulated and nilgrowth business in distribution. Mr Henry wants to form further alliances with supply companies, although there are signs that he could face unease from the DTI over this. He will press on, and says: "I can't see any reason why we shouldn't

do more." National Power still has to sign further coal contracts and this could be a lever as it negoti-. ates consent over its domestic

Mr Henry will hope to persuade Stephen Byers, the new Trade and Industry Secretary, of his arguments. For a chief executive who was surprised at the amount of government involvement in business, after arriving from Brown & Root, Mr Henry will now have to try

third Trade and Industry Secretary in a year. He had been within hours of a first appointment with Margaret Beckett when she was replaced by Peter Mandelson.

If National Power gets the go-ahead to buy one or more extra supply divisions, they will be funded by the proceeds from Drax. The City expects the station to fetch more than £2 billion. But even several links will leave the generator with a good deal of cash left over. Shareholders may hope for a dividend boost. National Power made corporate history three years ago with the biggest special dividend at the time when it shelled out £1.1 billion

to investors. Although the generator will look to bolster its UK base, it is unlikely to try to launch National Power as an energy brand to take on competitors. Through its planned links, It is securing guaranteed custom for its pow-

tricity is about to be changed. It is intended that next year — al-though the date may slip — pow-er trading will switch from the present pool system to bilateral contracts and demand-led buying. This will shake the operation of the generators, throwing them into a market that is likely to be far less secure for their product than the current one.

National Power's brand may well be better known overseas than at home. It is through the exporting of expertise that is well associated with the British deregulated market that the generator has been able to make much of its headway in international joint ventures and

privatisation programmes. The generator's approach to overseas ventures is like that of a flying doctor. It parachutes its own staff in small numbers into new ventures to instil into the local management and workers the culture and experience of National Power. In many areas. its approach is more incremental than the headline megamerger deals favoured by some of its competitors. Its interests in the US, for example, are more than half the size of PacifiCorp - the company recently bought by ScottishPower.

Mr Henry believes that the potential of the international market is enormous, although it has its difficulties, National Power's involvement in Pakistan, particularly with the Hub power project, cost the business £25 milion after the Government terminated contract payments. Elsewhere, many privatisation programmes are slowing down.

However, overall, the growth expected in the world power market is huge, triggered by the needs of developing countries. It has been estimated that over the next ten years up to 800 gigawaits of new power will be needed in the world - equivalent to 200 Drax stations.

CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

Ethical expression!
by while Committee.

Internet shopping 'set to boom' SFI unveils millennium plans

By Sarah Cunningham

SHOPPING on the Internet is expected to enjoy spectacular growth and even last year it managed to attract one million UK customers — double the total a year earlier — including a growing number of middle-aged and elderly people.

The internet currently accounts for just 0.2 per cent of retail sales, but a new report expects this to rise to 25 per cent in the next four years. Electronic commerce will then be worth more than £6 billion annually. US Internet retailers' success at Christmas led to a frenzy of speculation on Wall Street at the turn of the year.

The number of people aged 15 to 24 buy-

retailers' websites. By contrast, the number of people aged over 45 using the medium for shopping has increased dra-matically, which Verdict cites as evidence that electronic shopping is moving into the mainstream and the mass market.

Retailers have been slow to respond to the growing demand. So far, only 14 of the 100 largest UK retailers have websites from which goods can be ordered. Another 33 have "non-transactional" websites that offer only information.

A small but growing number of customers have begun e-mailing companies asking them to begin selling online, the

ly. Verdict, the retail consultancy behind report says. The products that are most the report, blames the slowness of the Internet and a lack of innovation on many on the Internet are computer software and | SFI GROUP, the pub operator, is plangames, books and music and video. Cloth-

ing will also grow as an electronic market. Interactive shopping on television is seen as potentially exciting, although the report says that "details of how this service will operate in practice are sketchy so it is difficult to comment definitively about how it will fit in".

One obstacle that Internet retailers will have to overcome is customers' concern about security. Verdict's consumer research shows that more than 50 per cent of Internet purchasers are concerned about giving their credit card details over

BY DOMINIC WALSH

nine to offer all-in food and drinks packages in an effort to open its doors on the eve of the millennium without being held to ransom by staff. Bar workers are demanding up to £100 an hour and DJs are holding out for £2,500 to work next New Year's Eve, causing a number of pub chains, including JD Wetherspoon, to scrap plans

for millennium festivities. But SFI, which saw a 5 per cent rise in like-for-like sales in the four weeks to January 3, used last New Year's Eve to try out a scheme that reduced staff numbers by 20 per cent and employed the latest techment from Chrysalis without the need for on how much staff would be paid this

Some 600 tickets were pre-sold at the Litten Tree in Bournemouth, the £25 price being inclusive of all drinks and a self-

service buffet. Andrew Latham, SFI's commercial director, said the evening had proved extremely successful - and profitable and the concept would be tested again in the middle of the year and used across most of the group's 60 pubs, in-cluding its Bar Med chain, on New Year's Eve. "We learnt a lot of lessons about how to minimise the number of

staff we need," Mr Latham said. He said no decision had yet been taken

an on-site DJ. This has avoided a poten-tial "ransom situation". year, but it might take the form of a "sig-nificant loyalty payment" from a special bonus pool. The ticket price has also yet to be decided.

One of the aspects the trial addressed was alcohol consumption in the context of a free bar. There were no incidents or major problems at all," Mr Latham said. "In fact, there were probably fewer than on a nor-mal night. One chap was asked to leave and three or four were told they d had enough to drink, but it all went very smoothly and produced a real party atmosphere."

The Home Office has announced that pubs will be allowed to stay open all night and SFI is planning a night-long event

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here's no stopping the equi-ty market bandwagon. Last week the US stock market posted all-time highs. Yes, I know that there was a new year and the birth of a new currency to celebrate. But this was surely exuberance beyond the call of duty. The performance of the US stock market continues to amaze - and to de-

mand explanation. According to one view, the explanation is simple. This is a classic inflationary boom caused by rapid growth of the money supply. The spillover into generalised inflation has been held back by the effects of the Asian crisis, the earlier strength of the dollar and the weakness of commodity prices. But just you wait. Some time soon, the wider effects will come through and inflation will take off.

On this view, far from deserving the man of the year award, the Fed Chairman, Alan Greenspan, has made an appalling mistake in cutting US interest rates. Low rates have encouraged bank borrowing and this has inflated the money supply. Flush with cash, investors

Mass delusion of US stock market

have sought other assets - hence the great rush into equities. This is a repeat of the story played out in Britain in the late Eighties, only this time the asset bubble is primarily in stocks rather than residential property. Eventually, what Greenspan has caused through setting interest rates too low he will have to correct by raising them -and that will prick the stock mar-

But there are other ways of explaining US monetary growth. The surge of the stock market has itself encouraged borrowing. Individuals have been made to feel richer and this has prompted them to spend above their current earnings, financed by borrowing. So monetary growth and rising stock prices may go together, but it may be the strength of the stock market that lies behind the monetary growth and not the other way round.

For companies, the relationship has been symbiotic. Major support for the stock market has come from US companies buying back their own shares, financed either by increased borrowing, or by cash that might otherwise have been used to reduce borrowing. As the market has risen, this strategy has been vindicated, thereby encouraging more of the same.

Simultaneously. monetary growth has been boosted by a big structural shift. The US current account deficit with the rest of the world has continued to grow. This by itself has required increased finance, but, meanwhile, the Federal Government has moved into surplus. (So much for the idea that current account deficits and fiscal deficits are two sides of the same coin.) This internal shift is profoundly important for the growth of the US money supply because



the Government does not borrow from the banks, but the two sectors whose financial balance is deteriorating, namely persons and

BOOTLE

corporations, do.
So if monetary growth is not the fundamental explanation for the exuberance of the equity market, what is? My answer will not appeal to those who beligns in the uppeal to those who believe in the un-

failing rationality of financial markets. I think the valuation of the US equity market has about it the quality of a mass delusion, which feeds on itself, rather like a chain letter. Such phenomena are, after all, far from unknown in the world of investment. The South Sea Bub-ble and the Dutch Tulip Mania readily spring to mind.

At the root of the present delu-

sion is the unpreparedness of investors to accept pedestrian returns on their portfolios after the heady rewards of the past. Cash or bonds paying only 5 per cent or so can readily be dismissed as boring. The prevailing view is that there must be something that is going to vield 20 per cent-plus. Equities have returned that in the past, so why not stick with a winner?

The sophisticated version of this is the view derived from statistical studies that equities "always" out-

perform in the end. But if the economy is to grow by 4 per cent real in the good times and perhaps 25 per cent on average, while the prices that businesses can charge for their products are rising by 1 to 2 per cent, why should there be an asset class that is going to return you 20 per cent-plus?

The fact that investors have recently enjoyed spectacular returns from equities should make you more cautious, not less.

Moreover, the buil market seems to be propelled by two com-pletely opposite sorts of stock. On the one side, there are the hightech stocks, which power ahead even though they have next to no earnings. Amazon.com, the online book and music retailer, last week announced that revenues had quadrupled in the fourth quarter but also warned analysts not to expect a lower quarterly loss as a result. The effect? The shares immediately rose 5 per cent.

On the other side, there are the old sectors, where stocks rise on the prospects for "consolidation". Even the weaker performers zoom ahead on the view that they will be taken over. There was a time when over-capacity was sorted out at great cost to the shareholders by companies going bust. Now, the shareholders seem to enjoy a

Worry about an upsurge of in-flation in the US, if you like. Personally. I am more concerned by the idea that the US is playing out a different version of what happened in Japan. Asset values have detached themselves from the income streams that they generate. When reality dawns, the result will be a crash towards deflation. Far from rising sharply, US interest rates and bond yields would then be driven to super-low levels. We are indeed supremely fortunate that we have Alan Greenspan, and not some mad monetarist, to chart a course through these treacher-

Nasdaq

scandal

brokers to

be fined

by SEC

FROM OLIVER AUGUST

THE Securities & Exchange Commission will today line some of the biggest Wall Street brokers millions of dol-

lars over a price-fixing scan-dal on the Nasdaq market.

The fines come as part of a settlement agreed by Merrill

Lynch, Morgan Stanley, Salomon Smith Barney and

others that will conclude one

of the darkest chapters in

Wall Street's recent history.

The brokers allegedly con-spired to manipulate Nas-daq, the world's biggest elec-tronic stock market, to widen

the spread between bid and

offer prices, which repre-

The SEC negotiated the

settlement with 24 brokerag-

es after a two-year investiga-tion, one of the biggest in US

financial history. The case is

based on extensive recordings of conversations be-tween traders at different banks. Some 50 individual

traders will also be fined and

are likely to be banned from

The trading scandal at

America's second-biggest ex-

change had threatened to undermine Nasdaq's market-

ing drive and expansion plan

in Europe. In a UK television

advertising campaign, Nas-

daq presents itself as the

new, dynamic face of Wall

Street. Deutsche Borse, the

German exchange, and Nas-

daq are planning a strategic

alliance.
The Nasdaq market lists

many small and fast-grow-

sents their profit margin.

Efforts to tackle bug could end in bust

By CARL MORTISHED

FEARS are growing that efforts by large companies to protect their businesses from the millennium bug could lead to a rapid boom followed by a bust at the turn of the century.

Evidence is emerging of stockpiling in both raw materials and products as firms attempt to ringlence their operations from anticipated distribution and supply-chain failures caused by computer failures.

The possibility of computer meltdown, known as the Year 2000 (Y2K) problem, is caused

FT plans edition in German

By RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR -

THE Financial Times is considering the launch of a German language edition as part of its expansion plans in Europe.

Andrew Gowers, Deputy Editor of the business daily and acting Editor for more than 12 months during a period spent by the Editor. Richard Lambert, in the US, will move to Germany almost immmediately to explore the feasibility of the project.

The FT is likely to an-

nounce today that Peter Martin, international edition editor, will become deputy editor. Pearson, the media and information group that owns the FT, an-nounced nearly two years ago that it was to spend up to £100 million developing the paper over five years, mainly in the US. Mr Lambert went to the US to spear-head a successful effort to expand in the American market, and increased sales there have helped to drive the FT's circulation to record peaks of more than 380,000. It is expected that Mr Gowers, a former Reuters Zurich correspondent who is fluent in German, will perform the same role in Germany, with the title of Editorial Director. Mr Gowers said: "We don't have a

by the inability of older generation computer programmes and hardware to recognise dates in four digits. Billions of pounds are being spent to correct the problem but concern about panic buying is encouraging firms to stockpile.

Drug companies are planning sharp increases in inventory to guarantee supplies of essential drugs, while just in time manufacturers in areas such as food and in the ear industry are seeking guarantees from suppliers.

The prospect of a sudden build-up in stocks is worrying investment analysis who believe that some companies have failed to alert investors to a potential problem.

Bill O'Neill economist at

HSBC, the investment bank, reckons that defensive behavious in anticipation of a "millen-nium bomb" will give a quick the same time depressing corporate profits in 1999. He said: "It will depress profits to the extent that firms need working capital to build up inventory." Evidence from Cap Gemini,

the information technology

group, suggests that firms are planning to stockpile and the trend is likely to worsen. According to its survey of 1,700 businesses in two countries. about a third overall were planning to increase inventories and as much as 38 per cent of US firms. Chris Webster of Cap Gemini said that the survey, undertaken last year, was about intentions. He expects the number to increase. "People have less confidence in their suppliers than in their own systems and many are building boxes around their organisations." The trend is evident among drug companies, such as SmithKline Beecham, Zeneca and Novartis. Virginia Pas-coe, analyst at HSBC, said that she will be adjusting her forecasts for the sector to take account of the cost of increased inventories. They are planning to build up stocks themselves because they do not want wholesalers to increase stocks."

. The drug industry is highly sensitive, particularly in the large US healthcare market, to price pressure from buyers. A build-up in stock by wholesalers could hand buyers a weapon that could boomerang back on manufacturers. Mr Webster sees a wider threat to the whole of industry if the trend picks up.
"A mini-crash is a real risk."



Retailers say January sales have not compensated for weak pre-Christmas figures. Consumers appear to have money but lack confidence to spend it

hristmas sales contirm retailers' fears

BY JANET BUSH ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE Christmas shopping season appears to have lived up to retailers' worst fears, with figures tomorrow expected to show that retail sales failed to grow in December compared with a year ago.

The British Retail Consortium is also expected to announce a drop in sales in the October to December period compared

spending has slowed markedly. The BRC has not reported a zero year-on-year figure since it started compiling its Month-

ly Sales Monitor in January 1994, and a flat figure is likely to prompt calls from the retailers' representative for more interest rate cuts to head off an even more severe slowdown on the high street.

A gloomy set of BRC figures will dash hopes raised last week by positive trading statewith the previous three months.

ments from Next and Clinton Cards and by a slightly less gloomy survey of distributive trades from the Confederation of British Industry.

In December 1997 a slow run-up to Christmas was compensated for by healthy January sales: a season of two halves. However, retailers are reporting that this year the sales have not been strong enough to compensate for weak pre-Christmas weeks. Retailers said that they were baffled by the poor showing from consumers, saying that they appear to have money but not the confidence to spend it. There has been a great deal of anecdotal evidence that consumers are prepared to buy, but only at highly competitive prices. However, TJ Hughes, a dis-

count department store operating largely in the North West and the Midlands, yesterday reported a 44 per cent rise in to-tal sales during the Christmas period, with like-for-like sales (stripping out changes in retail-ing floor space) up 12 per cent. John Lewis said on Friday that its sales had risen by 21 per cent in the Christmas week. but the figures were boosted by the opening of a new store in Bristol. Analysts estimated that like-for-like sales were

down about 2 per cent. Christmas trading statements are imminent from large retailers such as Kingfisher, Boots, Great Universal Stores, Selfridges and Dixons.

ing companies. Their often volatile shares are not as widely traded as blue-chip stocks on the New York Stock Exchange.

The charges against some of the 5,000-plus Nasdaq traders first surfaced in 1994 when an academic study claimed that patterns of trading suggested "tacit collusion" between market participants.

The academic study triggered an investigation of trading practices and in 1996 Nasdag increased supervision as part of a Justice Department settlement. But late last year investors who had been hurt by the trading practices sued several banks and were paid about \$1 billion (£600 million) in an out-of-court settlement.

Traders face a \$7,500 penalty for every time they illegally consulted a rival trader about a share price or spread. If a customer was hurt by these actions, the trader will be fined an additional \$15,000 for each violation.

Tay rebel seeks quick turnaround

THE dissident Tay Homes shareholder trying to oust its board and make himself chief executive has no intention of staying involved in running the northern housebuilder. Richard Tice, joint chief exec-

utive of the privately owned Sunley Group, a 10 per cent shareholder in Tay, has forced a special meeting of Tay investors, likely to be next month, at which he is seeking the removal of the four main directors. Mr Tice, who is critical of Tay's share price performance, claims to have the support of Tay's largest investor. PDFM, the fund manager. which holds 17 per cent of it. Mr Tice admitted that the

management team he has as-sembled to displace Tay's board will be a stop-gap. "We plan to act as facilitators in the turnaround of this business," he said. "We intend to cut the cost base and cut back debt and then merge the business to create a larger entity."

Mr Tice, 34, grandson of Sunley's founder, said merger plans did not include linking

Taiwan deal for Alstom

ALSTOM, the Anglo-French engineering company, will to-day sign a 6650 million (£450 million) contract for construction of a coal-fired power plant in Taiwan (Janet Bush writes).

The contract with Ho-Ping Power Corporation is one of the first private initiatives in independent power production in Taiwan, according to Alstom. Building work will begin this month, with commercial operation expected to be-gin in 2002. Alstom will be responsible

for the design, supply, con-struction and commissioning plans did not include linking of the plant, including the Tay to Sunley, its rival builder.

Cantor locked in dispute with BT

munications links between

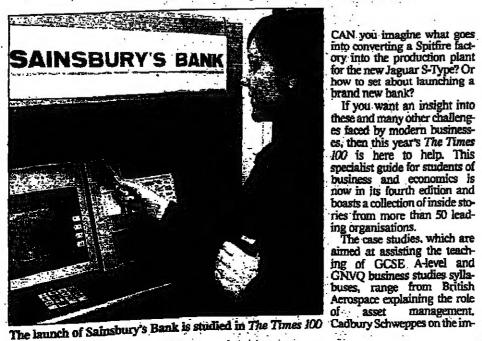
CANTOR FITZGERALD, one of the world's leading moneybrokers, is in a bitter dispute with British Telecom about a worldwide trading system that Cantor says does not work. The International Trading Platform ordered from BT's

Synegra Systems division two years ago at a cost of £2.4 mil-lion plus VAT was supposed to link Cantor's giant dealing room in the City with its headquarters in New York and its offices in Frankfurt, Milan and Luxembourg. The system involved com-

dealing screen along with com-puter hardware and software. Cantor, a specialist in money market transactions, runs trading operations 24 hours a day around the world, passing the "trading book" across time zones from the US to Europe and then to the Far East and back to the US. The deal was seen as a

coup for the Synegra Systems operation. However, Cantor claims that problems began to emerge as the system was being installed.

venture yet but it looks Case studies aid business students



CAN you imagine what goes into converting a Spitfire factory into the production plant for the new Jaguar S-Type? Or how to set about launching a brand new bank?

If you want an insight into

these and many other challenges faced by modern businesses, then this year's The Times 100 is here to help. This specialist guide for students of business and economics is now in its fourth edition and boasts a collection of inside stories from more than 50 leadng organisations.

The case studies, which are aimed at assisting the teaching of GCSE. A-level and GNVQ business studies sylla-buses, range from British Aerospace explaining the role of asset management.

By Sarah Cunningham

portance of cause-related marketing and Boots on the relaunch of its 17 range of cosmetics to appeal to "girls with

The publication is sent free of charge, courtesy of the contributors and Times Newspapers, to all UK secondary schools and colleges of higher and further education - about 5,700 institutions. with, between them, about 750,000 14- to 18-year-old students of business studies or economics.

The case studies underline the message that business is anything but boring. Jaguar, which is part of the Ford group, explains how it developed its new S-Type and prepared Castle Bromwich, a factory built in 1938 by the Ministry of Aviation, so that

the entire car could be assembled at the single site.

Sainsbury, the supermarkets group, explains how it took advantage of changes in high street banking to launch its own fully fledged bank, the first of its kind in the United

Golden Wonder goes into the thinking that lay behind its own launch of a low-fat crisp. The idea came from observing culture, with so many people being too busy to have a proper midday meal, and the consumer's desire for healthier

foods. The idea behind The Times 100 is to give students up-todate information that can be used alongside their textbooks so that they can understand an ever-changing business world.

Something of Interest from Charles Schwab

All cash balances on Charles Schwab share trading accounts can earn you interest. With effect from Monday 11th of January 1999, the following new interest rates will be applied to cash balances held on Share Trading accounts.

Gross interest p.a. based on cash balances	PEP Accounts	MarketMaster	Frequent Traders Club	Traded Options		
E20,000+ · · · · ·	3.75%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%		
£5,000 -€ 19,999	3.25%	3.75%	3.75%	3.75%		
£500-£4,999	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%		
£50-£499 .	1-25%	1.25%	1.25%	1.25%		

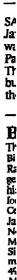
All interest rates are correct at the time of going to press and replace all previously quoted rates.

For more information on Charles Schwab Dealing Accounts please call our literature request line on 0870 601 8888 - ref: TT494

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Dark side of the moon shadows dawn of euro

or all the birthday champagne and por-tentous rhetoric, the euro's first week was completely upstaged by dramatic movements in the dollar and the yen, its quarrelsome older siblings.

The US currency hit a 27-month low against the Japanese currency on Thursday, a slump of 35 per cent in the past five months, and there is every reason to expect more foreign exchange fireworks in the months to come. As these two mighty tectonic plates threaten to grind against each other, it is no wonder that France used the euro's launch to relaunch its pet obsession of currency target zones. Keizo Obuchi, Japan's

Prime Minister, who was last-i week on a tour of Europe, and Jacques Chirac, the French President, issued a joint statement on Thursday in which 'a renewed framework for mutual co-operation on exchange markets, including strengthened mutual dialogue on macroeconomic policies, given the launch of the euro". In Tokyo, Toyoo Gyohten, a special advisor to the Japanese Prime Minister, said that setting a broad target zone would be a good start. Target zones are likely to figure again at Friday's meeting of ASEM, the Asia-Europe forum, in Frankfurt with Oskar Lafontaine, Germany's Finance Minister and a keen proponent of the idea, present.

Target zones are vehemently opposed by central bankers. including the European Central Bank and are not a realistic prospect in anything but the long term. The fact that they are being discussed is, however, highly suggestive both of a common European and Japanese desire to break US hegemony over world economic management and of real fear within euroland of damaging volatility among

the big three currencies. On the latter, euroland has enuine reason to be worried. Economic problems in both America and Japan are mounting and, if international investors lose faith in two out of the big three currencies, there is a real threat of massive inflows into the euro with all that this implies for

In its infancy, the new currency could find itself appreciating and creating demand problems for European exporters, writes **Janet Bush**

growth and the battle to bring down mass unemployment on the Continent.

It would be a grave mistake to view the yen's appreciation, particularly its rapid rise last week, as a signal of imminent recovery in the Japanese economy. Yen were in demand mostbecause banks and hedge funds were unwinding huge loss-making investment plays in which they had borrowed cheap yen to invest in higheryielding dollar assets. Now selling dollars.

In fact, the rising yen has all the potential for making Japan's already parlous economic situation worse. The currenaged Japan's trade perform-. ance. Ministry of Finance figures show that, in November, Japan's trade surplus had fallen by 15 per cent from a year earlier, with exports being ominously outstripped by imports (Unfortunately for Japan's invariably strained relations with America on trade. its surplus with the US continued to widen). Toyota calculates that a rise of YI against the dollar on average cuts its annual revenue by Y10 billion,

At the same time, long-term interest rates have been rising no longer sustainable.

\$/euro

because Japanese institutions simply cannot afford (or have no appetite for) a gargantuan programme of Japanese gov-ernment bonds which need to be issued to finance Japan's expansionary fiscal policies. The yield on the benchmark 10-year JGB has risen to above 2 per cent for the first time since September, 1997.

Far from growth returning to Japan this year, authoritative economists are talking about a further contraction in Japanese they are buying back yen and activity of something between 3 and 5 per cent. It is inconceivable that the yen can go on appreclating in these circumstances - unless the American econo-

my finally cracks. preferred last week to focus on America's problems. Having been lectured for years by the US Treasury and its acolytes in the International Monetary Fund about Japan's excesses in the 1980s, the glee with which Eisuke Sakakibara, Vice-Finance Minister, expressed concerns about America's "bubble-like economy" was entirely understandable.

It also echoes a growing consensus that America's position as the world's spender of last resort, invaluable as demand collapsed in Asia last year, is

Nobody knows when the crack will come — even now the American public is blithely continuing to spend far more than it earns on the assumption that Wall Street will go on rising for ever - but most believe that, when the party is over, the hangover is going to be punishing. America's current account deficit is heading towards a record \$300 billion this year. As a proportion of GDP, this would be about 3.5 per cent, as high as it was in 1987 when the

dollar went into free fall. "It is therefore easy to make a case for both the yen and the dollar falling on economic grounds. The most obvious destination for this money is ly to be under upward pressure as portfolios are adjusted to raise the proportion invested in the new super-currency.

For those European politicans who triumphantly proclaimed their belief that the euro would threaten the dollar's dominance as the world's reserve currency last week even before the first euro trade was settled — this may seem to be astonishingly good news. By virtue of chronic economic problems in the lands of the dollar and the yen, the euro could, even in its infancy, be a powerful magnet to interna-

one of this is to say that the euro is already a failure. It is, however, to introduce a dose of realism into last week's geo-political man-oeuvrings. Nobody is bothering to look at the dark side of the shiny new moon. Europe's leaders have seized - with indecent haste, some might say - on the euro's launch as the start of Europe's accession to a very exclusive global top table. Japan's leaders have spent their visit to Europe trying to preserve the year's status as one of the big three rather than trying to talk the currency down and so protect its exporters. America has, since the euro was born, been busy with the shenanigans taking shape in the Senate and has contributed little.

tional investment funds. It would, however, be a huge

mistake to allow longer-term

ambitions for the euro and for Europe's influence in the

world monetary system to ob-scure the brutally uncomforta-ble position that euroland may

soon find itself in. It could

find, in its infancy, that both

Japan (and Asia) and America

(and Latin America) are in re-

cession, or near to it. There

will, therefore, be a demand

problem for Europe's export-

ers. That problem could be ex-

acerbated by a really strong

Tensions, already evident between euroland's centre-left

governments and the Europe an Central Bank, could

quickly deteriorate further as

growth stalls and unemploys

ment rises. Relations between

member states may become

heated far sooner than they

would have done with a rela-

There will be no safety valve in

a depreciating currency or in a

substantial fiscal stimulus be-

cause the Growth and Stabili-

ty Pact forbids it. Popular polit-

ical acceptance of the euro, al-

ready no more than luke-

warm, could quickly chill.

and appreciating currency.

Against this background, Britain's best strategy would be to avoid the euro at all costs and to allow sterling to float freely in a no man's land between the big three. Currency obscurity -not greatness - may be the best recipe for stability.

JAPAN 130 110 UNITED STATES

87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99

A moving family comedy

TELEVISION CHOICE

Andrew Marshall's sitcom about fathers and sons is back for a second series and should continue to find an appreciative audience among those who like their comedy benign rather than abrasive. If Dad lacks the surreal touches that enliven Marshall's 2point4 Children, its portrayal of family relationships is no less accurate. Tonight's episode is built around a familiar proposition, that moving house is a trauma only a north short of bereavement. But, thanks to Marshall's script and assured playing, it stays the course. The prospect of the move has put Kevin McNally's chronically stressed Alan even more on edge than usual and the joke is that while trying to help, his wife, son and, most of all, his father only make matters worse. George Cole's Brian is a delightful study in timing and understatement.

Mayday: Lost at Sca

Channel 4, 9.00pm The second in this series about accidents at sea focuses on the sinking of the ferry boat Estonia on a rough night in the Baltic in 1994. The death toll of 850 made it Europe's worst passenger ship disaster, but still nobody knows for certain what disaster, but still nobody knows for certain what caused it. The film reconstructs the episode with the help of survivors, notably Paul Barney, an English landscape gardener, who, after the ship went down, spent the night adrift on a liferaft with 13 other passengers. By dawn only six were alive. The official inquiry blarned a design fault in the bow door. It suggested that the locks and hinges were not sufficient to stop heavy waves tearing it off, allowing water to surge into the car deck and turn the boat over. A team of German experts rejected this, claiming that the ship was so poorly maintained that it was not fit to sail.

The League of Gentlemen BBC2, 9.30pm

After the gentle comedy of Dad, here is something completely different. Among the milder of several jokes is a hearse where the flowers on the coffin spell BASTARD. Among the regular characters are a transsexual taxi driver and a vet who puts the wrong animal to skeep. There are gags about

Mark Gatiss and Reece Shearsmith star in The League of Gentlemen (BBC2, 9.30pm)

scatology, gynaecology and private parts. The writer-performers are four young men who met at Leeds University and won the Perrier Award at Edinburgh in 1997. Three of the team play all the characters, of which there are more than 60 in the series, both male and female. This latest venture is a sort of gruesome soap opera, set in a dead-end northern town and elivered as a series of sketches. Some will find di hilarious, others will be discussed by its difficult to the series of the discussion of the series of sketches. gusted. It is difficult to see any reaction in between.

BBC2, (1.15pm)

Here is another of those fictional court cases given verisimilitude by using a real judge and barristers and having the verdict delivered by a jury recruited, as juries are, from the ordinary public. Admittedly the accused and the witnesses are played by actors but not, on the whole, so that you would notice. Screened over three consecutive nights, the trial is of Mark Fay, charged with murdering his wife. The prosecution paints the background of a disintegrating marriage and alleges that Fay carried out the murder to head off a costly divorce settlement. Fay says his wife was killed by a prowler who had broken into the house and knocked him unconscious. Armchair jurous fascinated by conflicting evidence, or those who find in courtconflicting evidence, or those who find in court-rooms one of the most satisfying forms of drama, should be equally gripped. Peter Waymark should be equally gripped.

Stephen Lawrence: The Truth

Radio 5 Live, 8:00pm

The Big Boys Breakfast

Conscious as I am that not many readers get up before dawn in order to scour The Times for my early-morning listening recommendations; the start of a new programme in radio's principal bat-tleground nonetheless warrants proper attention. This is the time of day when audiences are built, a This is the time of day when audiences are built, a point proved beyond any doubt by Chris Tarrant at Capital and Chris Evans at Virgin. But the main target for Talk's new presenting duo, Nick Ferrari and David Banks (the big boys in question) is more likely to be Radio 5 Live. The three-hour show will include a five-minute editorial by Andrew Neil and three slots a day for Mystic Meg. Banks and ferrari are tabloid titans from way back, so shyness and introspection need not be expected. ness and introspection need not be expected.

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Zoe Bail 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00pm Kevin Greening 2.00 Mark Radcliffe 4.00 Chris Moyles 6.00 Dave Pearce 8.00 Lamaco Live. Featuring Catatonia recorded live in Cardiff 12.00am The Breezeblock 2.00 Cilve Warren 4.00 Sook Mills

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Serah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 12.00pm Jimmy Young 2.00 Ed Stewart 5.05 Johnnie Weller 7.00 Humphrey Lyttetton 8.00 Big Band Legende Live, Michael Parkinson presents a new series featuring big 8, bandleaders in concert (1,6) 8.30 Géorgie Fame (2/4) 9.30 in Days Betore Rock no Roth (3/4) 10.30 Richard Alinson

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 Breakfast with Nick Robinson and Victoria Derbyshire 6.00 Nicky Campbel 12.00pm The and Jane Garvey 7.00 News Edm. Including the dey's main sports round-up 7.30 Football Legends. Jimmy Ammield talks to Ray Wilson, former member of England's World Cup-winning squad in 1955 8.00 Stephen Lawrence: The Truth. See Choice 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00em Up Ali Night

VIRGIN

6.30am Chris Evans 9.30 Ruse Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Harriet Scott 6.45 Mark Forrest 10.00 Flichard Allen 1.00am James Mentit 4.30 Jeremy Clark

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast. See Choice 9.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raebum 3.00 Peter Deeley's Drive-time 5.00 Sports Zone 8.00 James Whele 1.00am Ian Collina

ain, disclosure remains an ambition rather than a reality. The reconstruction, presented by Trevor Phillips, graphically recalls the appalling errors, of commission and omission, made by the police. The programme consists of 25-minute segments, mixing reconstruction and analysis. Peter Barnard

The second part of the title may be optimistic given

The second part of the title may be optimistic given the clusive nature of the truth in the shameful case of the murder of Stephen Lawrence, but this two-hour reconstruction of the inquiry, based on transcripts (the official report has yet to be published), performs a valuable service, albeit one which should not have been necessary, because an inquiry of this importance should have been covered by radio and television in the first place. But in Britain, disclosure remains an ambitton rather than a

BBC WORLD SERVICE 5.00am The World Today 7.00 News 7.15 Newstelk 7.55 MyCentury 8.00 World News 8.06 Record News 8.20 Off the Sheft State Manner 8.35 Health Matters 9.00 World News 9.05 Westway Access 9.20 This Virtage Chart Show 9.30 Sports Round-Up 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 Entain Today 10.45 The Farming World. 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Pick of the World 12.00pes News 12.05 Culcook 12.46 Sports Round-Up 1.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Pick of the World 12.00pes News 12.05 World News 2.05 Sports Round-Up 3.15 Record News 3.30 Composer of the Month 4.00 World News 4.15 Inaight 4.30 Multipack IR-List 8.00 Europe Today 5.30 World News 4.15 Business Report 5.45 Sports Round-up 8.00 World News 6.15 Balan Today 8.30. The Next Big Thing 7.00 World News 6.15 Balan Today 8.30. The Next Big Thing 7.00 World News 7.05 Abeith Matters 7.30 Small Worlds 7.45. Off the Sheft Stas News 10.15 Sports Round-up 10.30 Multipack IR-List 11.00 World News 11.05 Quitook 11.45 Insight 12.00em The World World News 11.05 Quitook 11.45 Insight 12.00em The World World News 11.05 Quidok 11.45 Insight 12.00em The World World News 11.05 Quidok 11.45 Insight 12.00em The World Today 1.20 Health Matters 12.55 My Century 1.00 The World Today 1.30 Westwey 1.45 Record News 2.00 The World Today 2.30 The Next Big Thing 3.00 The World Today 3.20 Sports Round-Up 3.30 World Susiness Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The

CLASSIC FM

File 12 - 640

works, plus regular information undetes 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Hall of Fame Hour and Record of the Week 12.00pm: Lunchlime Requests. Jane Jones presents listeners' favourites 2.00 Concerto, J.C. Bach (Concert Symphony in E Bat major) 3.00 Jamie Crick. Conflictions Clessos and Alterboon *3.00 Jernie Crick: Commutute Cassics and Atternoon Romance 6.30 Newsnight. John Brunning presents the latest stories 7.00 Smooth Cassics at Seven. Two hours of soothing sounds 9.00 Evening Concert. Beethoven (Plano Sonata; Concerto in C major for violin, callo and plano); Haydin (Misse Brevis); Mozart (String Quertet in D minor) 11.00 Mann at Night. Wind down with the sound of ambient music 2.00am.

6.00am On Air with Petroc Trelawny, Includes Debussy (Cantata: La Damoiselle Elue); Schubert (Cantata: La Damoiselle Eue); Schubert (Impromptu in G fat, D899 No 3)

9.00 Masterwortes with Peter Hobday, Includes Beethoven (Rondo a Capriccio in G, Op 129, Rage over a Lost Perny); Verdi (Macbeth, Witches' Chonus and Ballet)

10.30 Artist of the Weet: Emanuel Ax

11.00 Sound Stories: Feuds Corner Richard Baker remembers Hander's contentious arrival on the Enoist musical exerce.

remembers Hander's contentious arrival on the English musical scene

12.00pm Composer of the Weelc Rimsky-Korsakov

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Live from the Vifgmore Hall, London. John Lill, piano, Beethoven (Piano Sonata in C. Op 53, Weldstein); Prokođev (Piano Sonata No 7)

2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under Martyn Brabbins and Jezy Maksymiuk, Artur Pizamo, piano

4.00 Opera in Action Robert Lloyd shares some of his experiences imm 30 vers in opera

experiences from 30 years in opera.

4.45 Music litachline Tommy Pearson investigates the concept of the national anthem.

5.00 in Tune This week, Sean Refferty talks to the heads and foundars of some of the smaller, more adventurous record companies.

Russiab, violin. Schnittle (in Memoriam);
Prokofiev (Voin Concerto No 2); Rachmaninov (Symphony No 3 in A minor)

9.20 Postscript: The Red Flag and the Red Mask Paul Neuberg explores the Communist project to use art to remould people's minds (1/5)

9.45 Ervin Schulinoff The Charleston and other jazz etudes, played by Emme Schmidt, plano

10.00 Voices A noctumal collection of songs for long winter nights. Presented by lain Burnside

10.45 Mibring it A session festuring the matil-instrumentalist Paul Schuze

11.20 Jazz Notes Alyn Shipton lasts to Cleo Laine about singers who have influenced her career

12.00em Composer of the Weeld: Francis Poulenc (r)

1.00 Through the Night with Donald Madepod. 1,00 Grieg (Lyric Pieces, Op 43); Brahms (Piano Sonate No 3 in F minor, Op 5); Chopin (Piano Sonate No 3 in B minor, Op 50) 3.00-5.00 Schools 3.00 Music Box 3.15 Something to Think About 3.30 The Song Tree 3.45 Stories and Fliymes 4.00 Primary Geography 5.05 Brahms (String Quartet No 2 in A minor, Op 51 No 2)

5.30m World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.45 Prayer for the Day 5.47 Farming Today Presented by Anna Hig-6.00 Today Introduced by James Naughtie and Windred Robinson 9.00 Start the Week with Jeremy Payman

9.00 Start the Week with Jeremy Payman
9.45 (FM) Sertal: The Doctor, the Detective and
Arthur Conan Doyle Michael Williams reads the
first extract from Marin Booth's blography,
charting Conan Doyle's early years as a GP (f)
9.45 (LW) Daily Service From Cathor Cathedral
10.00 Women's Hoar with Mertha Kearney and guests
11.00 Roast Bloat Coin Hotnes hears Roas Rust's story
of survival in war-tom Kazakhstan (f)
11.30 Bangars and Masih New comedy series by Kate
Hins. A nurl deserts the convent for a career in
catering. With Mark Straker (1/6)
12.00pm (FM) News 12.04 You and Yours
12.00 (LW) News Headflines; Shipping Forecast
1.00 The World at One Round-up of the news
fisadines. Presented by Nick Clarks
1.30 Counterpoint Third heat of the music quiz
2.00 The Archers (f)
2.15 Attention Play: Contemplating Adultary

2.00 The Arciers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: Contemplating Adultary
Michael Butt's chama based on the book by Lotte
and Joseph Hamburger. A respectable meried
Victorian translator conducts a passionate postal
relationship with a raffish German prince
3.00 Money Box Live: 0870-010 0444 Naws from the

world of personal finance
3.30 Tales from the Village Joel (Sbazo explores the tractitions that shape Africa (1/5) (r)
3.45 This Sceptred Isle Anne Messey nerrales part six of the history of Britain (r)
4.00 The Food Programme Dersk Cooper investigates stronger-testing meats (r)
4.30 Testing World with Jerni Murray and guests:
5.00 PM Presented by Clare English

6.00 Str O'Clock News
6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Desert Island Celebrities including Stephen Fry, Neil Kinnock, Germaine Greer, Jack Dee, Jim Broadbent and Judi Dench choose tevourite moments from I'm Sorry I

choose favourite moments from I'm Sorry!
Haven' a Clue
7.00 The Archers
7.15 Front Row Mark Lawson looks at the fictional
after egos of American writers (f)
7.45 Lady Sussan by Jane Austen. Wealthy widow Lady
Susan Vernon decides to visit her brother-in-law.
Broadcast earlier as part of Wornen's Hour (f)
8.00 Shooping Heaven, Shopping Hell Tony Thome
delves into the social significance of shopping
8.30 In Busineas New series. Microsoff's top thinker
Nathan Mythroid maps out the future of
computing for Peter Day
9.00 Nature: Insight Howard Stableford explores
death and ageing in the returnal world
9.30 Stant the Week (f)
10.00 The World Tonight with Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtimes. Name Julief Stevenson reads
part six of Emile Zole's take
11.00 Radio 4 Appeal An appeal on behalf of the Island
Trust, which provides sailing opportunities for
disadvartaged young people (f)
11.02 Late Night on 4: Especials Street by Iain Banks.
Paul Gambscoin presents the story behind the
rise and fall of a 1970s band (1/4)
11.50 (FMs) At the Foot of the Mountain The
composer Arthory Payne recalls the controversy
surrounding his completion of Eiger's third
symphony (f)
11.30 (LW) Today in Partisament

surrounding instrument or organismon symphony (r) 11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament 12.00am News 12.30 The Late Book: Last Resort Kate Harper reads part one of Alison Lurie's novel about a couple corning to terms with illness 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE RADIO 1. FM 97.699.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720, RADIO 5 LIVE, MW 683, 909, WORLD SERVICE, MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO, FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO, MW 1053, 1089. Talevision and radio Batings compiled by last Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and

Lloyds Direct Interest Rates for Personal Customers

Source: Datastream/ICV; OECD; IMF

1995

ELIRO:

Telesavings	Previous AER/gross rate %	New AER/gross rate %	New net rate %
£50,000+ ·	6.25	6.00	4.80
£25,000+	6.10	5.85	4.68
£10,000+	6.00	5.75	4.60
£ 5,000+	5.75	5.50	4.40
£ 2,500+	5.25	5.00	4.00

This is a telephone based saving account and is not available through Lloyds Bank branches, interest rates may vary from time to time. AER - Annual Equivalent Rate and is the notional rate which aflustrates the gross rate as if paid and time to time. AER - Admiss beganseen rane and is the hopoten age water augurates the goes take as it paid and compounded on an arrusal basis. As every advert for a saving product will contain an AER you will be able to compare more easily what return you can expect over time, GROSS - The annual interest rate before deduction of income tax at the rate specified by low (where applicable). NET - The annual interest rate after deduction of tax at the rate specified by law; this is shown for illustrative purposes only. Certain customers may be able to inclaim the tax from the inland Revenue. inderest is normally paid at the net rate, unless the Account falls within an exempt category or the Account-holder qualifies to receive interest gross.

These rates of interest apply with effect from 11 January 1999



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Answers from page 40

(b) Skill, mastery. The Italian word.

(c) In northern Chinese cities: a narrow side-street, an alley.

In places the hutungs are only just wide enough for a man to MAESTRIA

While admiring the maestria of this piece of writing by Mr Shaw I find in it several inaccuracies."

(a) The warrior group of the Masai tribe which comprises the younger ummarried males. Also a member of this group. The Ma-

The moran are the warrior age-grade. In the past the moran constituted a free military organisation within the tribe."

(a) The eternal timeles now presumed, as an attribute of God, to be co-existent with Time. From the Latin nunc now + stans present participle of stare to stand. In willing the world is at once an eternal process and an eternal stationary thing - a nunc stans - at the same time."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE Nf5! wins, eg, 1, . . . gxf5; 2 Qh4 and mate follows.

Nice photography, shame about the plot

atching a Stephen Polia-koff drama is getting like listening to an intelligent drunk at a party. He has some fascinating ideas. He con-stantly confronts you and pulls you up short. He has urgent propositions about "things that really matter". And he blithely mixes brilliant insights with cliches so crass you want to pour the contents of the ice bucket over his head.

Poliakoff is an undead survivor of a radical past, still determined to see the world through committed, irony-free, pre-Postmodernist eyes. This ought to be refreshing. but the results can be dire, as in the preposterous The Tribe Shooting the Past (Sunday, BBC2) is a rather more complex curate's egg: The central theme — the rich cultural meaning of a photographic archive - the heart-stopping power of still images, each one an amulet into a lost world of human experience — is wonderful. At the heart

Marilyn Truman (Lindsay Duncan) uses pictures collated from different sections of a threatened collection to trace the story of a Jewish girl in Nazi Berlin.

The idea that Truman's deputy Oswald (Timothy Spall) would spend hours sifting through thousands of images in case this Holocaust survivor happened to have been snapped at the Elephant and Castle decades later is fairly ludicrous. That he should recognise her as a dishevelled old woman when the last known image showed her as a young girl is even more so. But that seemed tolerable. The example was symbolic of the priceless realities latent in such archives. It was very moving, intensified by Lindsay Duncan's air of restrained passion.

Much has been made in the press of the trony that the BBC had to hire back pictures for the production from a priceless archive that

of the first episode, head librarian the Corporation itself off-loaded at a knockdown price. This might seem to prove Poliakoff's vision of a philistine, accountancy-driven corporate culture discarding our inheritance. The real irony is that

D oliakoff's American executives are cardboard ruthless capitalists who live by ruthless schedules, shouting ruthless things into their ruthless mobiles. They propose to sell off a few valuable pictures and discard the bulk of the collection. The gorgeous inte-rior of the library building, which Poliakoff chose to film at Ham House, is to be ripped out for conversion into a 21st-century business school. Through an unlikely contrivance, which hasn't been fully explained yet, all of this is to happen at a few days' notice. The central thrust of a valid argument was constantly undermined by this childishly implausible plot.



Paul



Of course, the BBC's archive was not lost. It was sold on more than once at vastly mounting profits, precisely because grasping rican businessmen knew it had huge commercial, as well as historic, value. There were terrific performances from Lindsay Duncan and Timothy Spall as her

scruffy, Bolshie, manipulative dep-

uty, but these issues are not straightforward, and Poliakoff

does us no favours by converting them into crudely stereotyped op-

Bill Bryson doesn't hold with us Brits undervaluing our cultural heritage. For an American to prefer, in some respects at least, the drizzly British lifestyle to his native variety is an oddity that puts him in a very privileged position with British readers.

He can be as rude as he likes, once he has comforted us with the assurance that basically he thinks we're just great. He did right at the beginning of Notes From A Small Island (ITV, Sunday), a series re-creating the wanderings of his book. Unfortunately he hasn't yet got round to being rude.

I have always greatly enjoyed Bryson's books on language, but his travel writing has never equalled the wonderful The Lost ontinent, in which he retraced his childhood journeys through America's obscure backwaters. He

soft-spoken, which is great as long as he is noticing the oddities of things. When his observations are merely commonplace, however, it all seems horribly bland.

ast night he took us to London, still "the greatest city in the world" apparently. The black cabs are "without question the finest in the world", he told us reassuringly. We went for a ride with Stephen Fry, who owns a black cab, and went for tea with some salt-of-the-earth cabbies.

Fry drives a cab "for anonymity" and because "it is a lot quicker The explanation of this second point became curiously vague and waffly, presumably to avoid any suggestion that Fry makes improper use of the bus lanes.

Then Bryson whipped us off to Liverpool, "once an industrial powerhouse", no less, though now sad-ly depopulated as all those salt-oithe earth comedians inflict themselves on everyone else. Still, it has kept its "bulldog spirit". Here we met Alexei Sayle, who also managed to avoid saying anything interesting about the city, except that the accent stopped abruptly at the city boundary. By the end I was yearning for a hearty slug of acid. Bryson is much funnier when he's

Sayle popped up again in A History of Alternative Comedy (BBC2, Sunday), hosted by Angus Deayton. We were treated to amusing "before they were famous" film of all the big names, including Sayle himself with improbably long hair. Nobody seemed able to agree what "alternative comedy" is (or was), except that it wasn't racist or sexist like the traditional stuff and Jo Brand said people who didn't like it were "unintelligent" "mediocre". Thus does an anti-institutional trend become an institution.

6.00am Business Breakfast (34966) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (89343) 9.00 Kilroy (1) (8738121)

9.45 The Vanesse Show (T) (5101091) 10.55 News; Weather (T) (7077985) 11.00 Real Rooms (7087362) 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1) (7057121) 11.55 News; Weather (T) (1280817) 12.00pm Call My Bluff (74362):

12.30 Buttersea Dogs' Home (40166) 1.00 One O'Clock News (I) (82430) 1.30 Regional News; Weather (86761121) 1.40 Neighbours The land war affects Lou's health (T) (65458237).

2.05 Ironside A 10-year-old girl is the Chief's best hope of saving the family name when a rich socialite loses her jewels in a bag snatch incident (r) (7734411) 2.55 Going for a Song (8636966) 3.20 The Weather Show (T) (2087817)

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (3873986) 3.45 The Littlest Pet Shop (9143169) 3.55 Bodger and Badger (8560850) 4.10 Pocket Dragon Adventures (5569430) 4.20 Rugrets (6010633) 4.35 Misery Guts (1793053) 5.00 Newsround (5530782) 5.10 Blue Peter (6670237)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (592169) 6.00 Six O'Clock News; Weather (T) (121) 6.30 Regional News Magazine (701) 7.00 This is Your Life Michael Aspe with the big red book (T) (9898)

7.30 Watchdog Healthcheck includes a look at why Scandinavians live longer than other Europeans (T) (985). 8.00 EastEnders Ruth makes a shocking discovery (T) (8546)



George Cole stars as the sometimes awkward grandfather Briss (8.30pm)

8.30 Dad New series of the domestic sixom. With George Cole, Kevin McNally and Toby Ross-Bryani (F) (7053) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News; Regional News:

9.30 Paddington Green Jackie considers expensive plastic surgery to complete her sex-change (T) (89782)

10.00 Panorama Neville Lawrence, father of murder victim Stephen, questions the Metropolitan Police Force's commitment to tackling racist crime (T) (340188) 10.45 Breach of Conduct (1994) Premiere, A woman has an affair with her military official husband's boss, who later

kidnaps her. Thriller, steming Peter Coyote and Courtney Thome-Smith. Directed by Tim Matheson (T) (767695) 12.15em Billy Two Hats (1973). Bizarre western, focusing on the friendship between an elderly Scottish outlaw and a young half-breed indian. Gregory Pack and Desi Armaz Jrr star. Directed by Ted

Kotcheff (277928) 1.45 Weather (8235164) 1.50 BBC News 24 (75129218)

7.00em Children's BBC Breakfast Show

lem Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Wiggly Park (1843099) 7.05 Teletubbles (2003256) 7.30 Yog's Tressure Hunt (2396343) 7.50 Blue Peter (2307459) 8.15 Tez-Mania (5705701) 8.40 Polike Dot Shorts (8208091) 8.50 Romueld the Reindeer (8204275) 8.00 Spece Ark (7131546) 8.10 Short: Circuit (6540411) 8.00 Military (8204011) (7/3546) #15 Stoff: Critish (354491) 9.45 Storytime (831898) 10.00 Teletubbles (43053) 10.30 Words and Pictures (5977782) 10.45 Cats' Eyes (5972237) 11.00 Look and Read (1539546) 11.20 Zig Zag (6556527) 11.40 Landmarks (5761324) 12.05pm History File (4580324) 12.30 Working Lunch (40148) 1.00 Romusid the Reindeer (73749966)

1.10 The Arts and Crafts How (2564508) 2.10 Sporting Greats New series. Earmonn Holmes talks to British sporting heroes, beginning with Stirling Moss (22285904) 2.40 News; Weather (T) (8028169) 2.45 Match of Their Day New series. Garth

Crooks talks to former England manager Bobby Robson (T) (1120558) 3.25 News; Weather (T) (2057430)

3.30 The Car's the Star (r) (T) (8518459)
3.55 The Wiz (1978) Musical based on The Wizard of Oz. With Diana Ross. Directed by Sloney Lurnet (16795459) 6.00 The Simpsons (f) (T) (546256) 6.20 The Simpsons (f) (T) (540072) 6.45 Fit, Miss or Maybe (f) (T) (675492)

7.00 Digital Planet How digital technology affects communities (2/3) (T) (9940)
7.30 Against the Grain Oliver Walston Investigates levels of subsidy offered to British farmers (T) (527) 8.00 Beat Route Jooks Holland's musical

journey to ends in Dublin (1) (6188) 8.30 Food and Drink Antony Worrall Thompson cooks Thai curry (1) (5895) 8.80 Red Dwarf The crew are alarmed to receive an SOS call (1) (2891)

The League of Gentlemen New cornedy with Jeremy Dyson, Mark Gatiss, Steve Pemberton and Reece Shearsmith (T) (87324) Paul Whitehouse (r) (T) (73633) 10.30 Newsnight With Kirsty Wark (T) (294695)



A fictional defendant stands trial before a judge and jury (11.15pm)

Trial by Jury New series. Real-life court officials by the fictional case of a man accused murdering his wife (1/3) (T) (345053) 11.55 Weather (534275) 12.00 Despatch Box (26015)

12.30am BBC Learning Zonec Open Eniversity: A Different Way of Learning 1.00 The Science of Climate? 1.30 A Formidable Fee 2.00 Schools: Teaching Today 4.00 Languages: Get By in French 5.00 Business and Training: Skills for Work 5.45 Open University: Lifestyles, Work and the Family 6.35 Wood, Brass and Baboon Bones

5.30am ITN Morning News (70256) 6.00 GMTY (686054 9.25 Tricha (T) (3634817)

10.30 This Morning (1) (24201527) 12.15pm HTV News (T) (9428695) 12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (T) (94614) 1.00 Shortland Street Nick is beaten (84898) 1.30 Home and Away Tom and Vinnie fall out over Justine (1) (93985)

2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (2968701) 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (T) (961879) 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (2055072) 3.20 HTV News (1) (2052985)

3.25 CTTV: Mopatop's Shop (2042508) 3.35 Tots TV (8584430) 3.45 The Adventures of Captain Pugwash (8571966) 4.00 Oggy and the Cockroeches (6637643) 4.20 It's a Mystery (4637463) 4.45 Sabrina the Teenage Witch (1717633) 5.10 WEST: Painting Wild Wales Sketches and water- colours of rural beauty, beginning in Snowdonia (1) (8200594)

5.10 WALES: Moneyspinners Antiques and collectibles (1/5) (I) (8200594) 5.40 ITN Early Evening News (1) (190850) 6.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (465817) 6.25 WALES: Wales Tonight (1) (967492) 6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (704343) 6.30 The West Tonight (T) (169) 7,00 Wish You Were Here? Includes visits to Aspen, Colorado, and the new Turkish

resort of Belek (T) (4966) 7.30 Coronation Street The hospital inquiry has an unexpected outcome (T) (463) 8.06 Who Wants to Be a N Big-prize game show (T) (3614)



Carol Vorderman presents moi design makeovers (8.30pm)

9.30 Carry Vorderman's Better Homes The design teams visit Thorpe-in-Baine near Doncaster, where they work their makeover magic on a derelict bern and an ordinary modern garden (1) (2121) 9.00 The Vice Hinckley's brutal treatment of Nikkl brings dire repercussions. With Ken Stott (2/6) (T) (2459)

10.00 News at Ten; Weather (1) (77459) 10.30 HTV News and Weether (1) (517188) 10.40 Nash Bridges A computer hacker is blackmailed into helping crooks commit

an audecious robbery (T) (302063)

11.40 Billy Bathgate (1991) A teenager
escapes the poverty of Depression-era
New York by hooking up with a notorious
gangster. Starring Dustin Hoffman,
Nicole (Iddman and Bruce Willis, Directed by Robert Benton (T) (142324) 1.35am Football Extra (3361034) 2.35 World Football (r) (9608386)

3.05 House of Dracuta (1945) A scientist encounters the Wolf Man and Frankenstein's monster. Starring John Carradine and Lon Chaney Jnr. Directed by Erie C Kenton (5945763) 4.15 Soundtrax (60502947) 4.25 ITV Nightscreen (3937183)

5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (11744)

As HTV West except: 12.20-12.30pm Central News; Weather (6044343) 1.00 High Road (84898) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (9073898)

2.15-2.45 Home and Away (962508) 3.20-3.25 Central News (2052985) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (8200594) 6.25-7.00 Central News; Weether (967492) 10.30-10.40 Central News; Weather (517188) 4.15am Central Joblinder '99 (8251034) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (4388909)

As HTV West except:

12.15-12.27pm Westcountry News; Weather (9428695)

12.27-12.30 illuminations (6052362) 1.00 High Road (84898) 1.30 Jerry Springer Show (9073898) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (982508) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News: We (2052985)

5.08 Birthday People (8659492) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8200594) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (90643) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News; Weather -(517188)

As HTV West except:

12.15-12.30pm Meridian News; Weather 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8200594) 6.00 Meridian Tonight (817)

6.30-7.00 Country Ways (169) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News; Weather (517188)5.00-5.30am Freescreen (11744)

As HTV West except: 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (6023850) 12.20-12.30 Anglia News ther (6044343) 1.00-1.30 Upshot! (r) 5.23 Anglia Weather (1) (705072) 5.25-7.00 Anglia News (1) (957492) 10.29 Anglia Air Watch (614782) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News

Staris: 5.55am Sesame Street (r) (45098492) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (47068545) 9.00 Ysgolfon: The English Programme (98384343) 9.25 Schools at Work (72503169) 9.30 9.25 Schools at Work (72503169) 9.30 Geography Junction (89696546) 9.45 BookBox (89684701) 10.00 Stage Two Science (35827411) 10.15 Victorian Scots (35840362) 10.30 Place and People (17322885) 10.50 Stop, Look, Listen (93005053) 11.00 Deuparth Gwaith (24916072) 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (1) (24917701) 12.00pm Right to Reply (16649256) 12.30 Sessane Street (36634430) 1.00 Planed Plant; Ffwrdd an (54405904) 1.15 Deng (1) (54407450) 1.30 Classic

1.15 Ding Dong (T) (54400459) 1.30 Classic Aircraft (3/8) (T) (38633701) 2.00 Time Team (T) (35773362) 3.00 The Lost Gardens of Hefigan (1/6) (r) (1) (64030071) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (56321237) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One Court Palece (56321237) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (I) (56333072) 4.30 The Montal Williams Show (I) (56339256) 5.00 Planed Plant (55585166) 5.30 Countdown (I) (56320508) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (I) (69209898) 6.10 Heno (I) (95801895) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (I) (7985922) 7.30 Newyddion (I) (56330985) 8.00 Dudiey (I) (63680530) 8.30 Pwy Di Pwy? (I) (74935427) 9.00 Y Byd Ar Bedwar (I) (24903508) 9.30 Sgorlo (I) (19892527) 10.35 Cold Turkey (67013701) 11.05 FiLM: Kes (I) (18022188) 1.10em Arthouse (71241676) 2.10 Directed 4.00 Yspolion: Diwedd 4.00 Ysgolion:

CHANGES 4 5.30em Pink Panther (3842430)

5.50 Magic Roundabout (7914492) 5.55 Sesame Street (4850904)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (72053) 9.00 Schools: The English Programme (6547169) 9.25 Schools at Work (7362411) 9.30 Geography Junction (8308411) 9.45 Book Box (8303966) 10.00 Stage Two Science (9525904) 10.15 Victorian Scots (9515527) 10.30 Press and Pennia (7387363) 10.50 Street Place and People (3287362) 10.50 Stop, Look, Listen (2799695) 11.00 Ral-A-Tat-Tat (6547879) 11.15 The Mb: (6553430)

11**.30** Here's One I Made Earlier (r) (T) (6782) 12.00 Sesame Street (67072) 12.30pm Bewitched (T) (92256) 1.00 Pet Rescue (r) (T) (75140) 1.30 Roots to Success (86778411)

1.45 Collectors' Lot (79133121)

1.50 You're in the Navy Now (1951)
Wartime comedy following the antics of a hapless crew on board a steam-powered ship. Gary Cooper and Jane Greer star. Henry Hathaway directs (T) (61682053) 3.30 Hampton Court Palace (T) (275) 4.00 Fifteeri-to-One (1) (782)

4.30 Countdown (T) (1787492) 4.55 Montel Williams (1) (4898850) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (546)

6.00 Dishes Dating show with a culinary theme (T) (459) 6.30 Hollvoeks Carol finally gets to go out with Finn (1) (411) 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (410558)
7.50 Gilbert and Sulliven: The Very Models
Animation about the famous musical

collaboration (T) (609879) 8.00 Wild Tales insight into the nocturnal savagery of the domestic cat (T) (6427) 9.00 Mayday The 1994 sinking of the ferryboat Estonia (2/4)



David Bradley stars in Ken Loach's northern drama (10pm)

16.00 Kes (1969) Classic British drama about a shy lad in a northern town who steals a baby kestrel and trains it as a pet. Directed by Ken Loach and starring David Bradley, Colin Welland and Lynne Perrie (T) (90218527)

12.05am Shooting Gallery New series. Showcase of short films, beginning with Yellow, directed by Simon Beautoy and Bille Eltringham, Arton and Minly, by Alnoor Dewishi, and A Hard Dey's Work, by Koen Mortier (8362218)

1.00 Dispetches (r) (32386) 2.00 Gigot (1962) A mute boarding house caretaker takes in an infirm prostitute and her child. Offbeat comedy, starring Jackie Gleeson and Katherine Kath. Directed by Gena Kelly (856928) 3.45 Eau De La Vie A woman regrets joining

the management team of an up-market 4.00 Schools: Top 1 (852170) 5.40 Place and People (3815386)

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6.00am 5 News and Sport Headlines, sport and business (7966701) 7.00 WideWorld Part two, The endangered

reindeer of the Arctic (r) (T) (9061904) 7.30 Milkshakel (7500427)

7.35 Wimzie's House (r) (9792817) 8.00 Havskazoo (r) (1132508) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (r) (1131879) 9.00 Was it Good for You? (r) (2738091)

9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (4767546) 9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6584053) 10.20 Sunset Beach Vanessa considers adoption (T) (2182701)

11.10 Leeza (r) (2079527) 12.00pm 5 News at Noon (T) (1135695)

12.30 Family Affairs Jamie blames his mother for the divorce (r) (1) (9901324)

1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Bridget learns Eric is her father (T) (9060275) 1.30 The Rossanue Show (9900695)

2.60 100 Per Cent Gold (6321695) 2.30 Good Afternoon (4520459) 3.30 Bachelor Knight (1947) A teenager

sets her sights on an attractive older man but he is more interested in her sister. Romantic comedy, starring Cary Grant and Myrna Loy, Directed by Irving Reis

5.20 Sunset Beach Shown earlier (r) (T); 5 News Update (6153879) 6.00 100 Per Cent Computer-generated quiz

6.30 Family Affairs Dave thinks he's off the

hook (T) (5273256) 7.00 5 News; Weather (1) (6325411) 7.30 Champions of the Wild The work of the

kangaroo conservationists Marjorie Wilson and Lynette Campoell, champions of Australia's most famous animal, with contrasting outlooks on their crusade (T); 5 News Update (5262140) 8.00 Weather Front Katie Ledger, Paul Simons and Chris Thorncroft examine issues surrounding global weather

systems (6341459) 8.30 Road Rages Reports on incidents of road rage in some rural areas, where drivers tear around the winding country lanes at dangerous speeds and farmers congest traffic with slow-moving loads (2/6) (T); 5 News Update (6320966)

9.00 Terror in the Family (TVM 1996) A wayward teenager's relationship with a definquent tears her seemingly perfect leaningue at lears has seeningly penetric family apart. Powerful domestic melodrams, with Hilary Swank, Joanna Kerns, Dan Lauria and Andy Kavovit. Directed by Gregory Goodell (1); 5 News Update (52206492)

10.40 Dr Fox's Chart Update The latest pop hits (1751643)

10.45 Zandy's Bride (1974) Romantic western adventure about the relationship between a cattle baron and his strong-willed mail-order bride. Gene Hackman and Liv Ullman star, Directed by Jan Troell (83261643)

magazine (89644299) 4.40 Prisoner: Ceti Block H Myra Is punished for scalding Gloria and the struggle to be Top Dog goes on, with the Freak temporarily on a high (3098676) 5.30 106 Per Cent (r) (1005611)

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• For further listings see Saturday's Vision

SKY ONE

7.00mm Count Duckula (41891) 7.30 The Chris Evens Breeddast Show (18140) 8.30 Hollywood Squares (12546) 8.00 Selfy Jessy Raphael (10445) 8.00 The Oprah Whithey Show (17140) 11.00 Gulllyl (37904) 12.00past Jenny Jones (20053) 1.00 Med About You (91332) 1.30 Jeopardy (40817) 2.00 Selfy Jessy Rephael (85830) 3.00 Jenny Jones (28121) 4.00 Gulllyl (47256) 8.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (3879) 6.00 Memied — With Chichen (7701) 8.30 Frends (8053) 7.00 The Simpsons (4508) 7.30 The Simpsons (4508) 7.30 The Simpsons (4508) 7.30 The Simpsons (4508) 7.30 The Simpsons (4508) 11.30 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (85140) 9.00 First Wewe (8504) 18.00 South Peir, (17081) 10.30 Selfyld (63411) 11.00 Friends (48885) 11.30 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (87782) 12.30 and Highlender The Series (61812) 1.30 Long Pay (6031878) SKY BOX OFFICE SKY ONE SKY BOX OFFICE

Sky's psy-per-view movie chemics. To view any film telephone 0990 800888 -SKY BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 25) Volceno (1997) SKY 90X OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60) Starship Troopers (1997) George of the Jungle (1997) SKY BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58)

PLMFOUR 6.00pm Short Attention Span Cinema (10742) 6.35 PTang Yang Kipperbung (1982) (5647817) 8.00 Circle of Friends (1985) (7312140) 19.00 Seautiful Thing (1995) (974653) 12.00am Gragory's Girl (1980) (3489657) 1.35 The Driver (1978) (1715541) 3.10 Metal Side (1994) (1715541) 3.50 Metal Side (1994) (1995) 6.00 Cince

Crash (1996)

SKY PREMIER 6,00am 1'8 Get by (1950) (64817) 8.00 We the Jury (1937) (64817) 8.00 Nepoteon and Samusthe (1972) (43804) 12,00pm Stormontaeur: Revenge of the Tuelate (1998) (87625) 2.00 We the Jury (1937) (15564) 2.30 Bany Norman's Firn Noth 17572 4.00 Magniann and Might (1527) 4.00 Negoteon and Samentine (1972) (9053) 6.00 Stormchaser, Revenge of the Twister

(1986) (57121) 8.00 Everyone Says I Love Yeu (1980) (69858) 19.09 Money-Train, (1985) (698168) 11.50 The Star Makeir (1986) (788140) 1.45cm Ghl 6 (1986) (217589) 3.35 Rough Magic (1986) (22212102) SKY MOVIEMAX

SKY MOVIEMAX

7.00em Fernmes Fatales: Meyl Streep
(34817) 7.20 Movie Megic: The Transformer
(3688995) 8.18 Action Heroes: Hardson
Ford (2818890) 9.00 Amoret (1983)
(37188) 11.00 Likin Bigloot (1985)
(8482) 1.00pus Fernmes Fatales: Meryl
Streep (35188) 3.20 Movie Megic: The
Transformer (848843) 2.15 Action Heroes:
Hartiston Ford (2997895) 3.00 Amoret
(1883) (86980) 5.00 Likin Bigloot (1985)
(1803) (86980) 5.00 Likin Bigloot (1987)
(1403) 9.00 Contagious (1997) (8095)
11.00 Born Bad (1997) (8934) 12.25em
Triager Happy (1996) (98311) 12.25em
Triager Happy (1996) (985102) 2.10
Delendars: The Psythact (1997) (437170)
3.50 Rikdi and Pete (1988) (40590) SKY CINEMA

4.00pin Blood on the Moon (1948) (8054508): 8.00 in Manne Only (1839). (7425121) 8.00 Hallabaloo Over Georgia and Boonle's Pictures (1978) (7437986) 10.00 The Europeans (1879) (7437987) 11.35 The Pope of Graenwich Village 10.00 The Europeans (1979) (7451550) 11.35 The Pope of Greensich Village (1984) (2105237) 1.35am Ocksist (1970) (8323967) 3.35 Three Coins to the Fountials (1964) (60822980) 8.00pm trantoe (1982) (40178430) 11.80 The Walking Stick (1870) (21378256) 1,00m; Where the Spite Are (1965) (2132560) . 3.00 trantoe (1962) (42333728) 3.00 Clare

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY SPORTS 1
7.00em Footist Special 8.30 Racing News
9.00 Aerobics Cz Style 9.30 World Sport
Special 10.00 Spanish Footist 12.00em
Aerobics Cz Style 12.30 What a Westernd
1.00 Footist Special 2.30 Spanish Footist
4.30 V-Mex 6.00 Mex Foure 8.00 Sports
Cortre 8.30 What a Westernd 7.00 Footisel
League Review 8.00 Monday Night Footisel
Special 9.30 Total Sport 10.00 Sports
Centre 10.15 You're On Sty Sports 10.05
Footist League Review 11.46 Sports
Centre 12.00em You're On Sty Sports
12.20 Monday Night Footisel Sports
2.15 Close
3.15 Close

Footbell League Review 6.00 World Wardsuring 6.30 V-Max 7.00 International Cricket 19.00 US Golf Mercedes Championship 12.00am World Motor Sport 9.00 Sports Centre 3.15 Close SKY SPORTS 3

EUROSPORT

7.00 mg Crossrads 7.30 Neighbours 7.55
EastEnders 8.30 The Bif 9.00 The Bif 9.30
The House of Elicit 10.30 Angels 11.00
Delias 11.55 Neighbours 72.25pm
EastEnders 1.00 Juliel Brave 2.00 Delias
2.55 The Bif 3.25 The Bif 3.25 EastEnders
4.30 Angels 5.30 All Creatures Great and
Small 6.00 Dymanty 7.00 May to December
7.40 it Ahrt Half Hot, Murn 8.20 Yes,
Minister 9.00 Tears Before Bectime 10.05
Hemish Nachesh 11.10 Sports Annels of
the Year 11.40 The Bif 12.10cm. The Bif
12.40 Spender 1.40 Franch and Saunders
2.10 The Onedin Line 9.00 Shopping with
Screenings.

12.90pm NFL: Amencen Football 5.30 Total Sport 8.00 Fish TV 7.00 US Golf: Mercades Chemptonship 9.00 Sumo Wrestling 10.00 Dickle Device' Sporting Haroes 11.00 Golden Age of Racing: A to Z of Motor Sport 11.30 Close

7.30mm Rahy 8.00 Speed Skating 9.00
Aprie Skirig 10.00 Cross-Country Skirig
11.00 Reky 11.30 Cer On Ice 12.00pm
Ski-Lumping 1.00 Alpine Skirig 2.00 Nordic
Combined Skirig 3.30 Bestrion 5.00
Ski-Lumping 6.00 Ten-Pin Bowling 7.00
Extreme Sports 8.00 Martiel Arts 9.30 Rahy
10.00 Pootball: Eurogoals 11.30 Bowng
12.00em Refly 12.30 Close UK GOLD

GRANADA PLUS 6.00mm Within These Walls 7.00 On the Subset Worth Ingas Wate 7,00 Ch may buset 7,00 Ch may buset 7,00 Ch may buset 6,30 Bern Street Gang 8,00 That's My Boy 8,30 Second Thoughts 9,00 Classic Corporation Street 9,30 Emmarcials Farm 10,00 thingsomething 11,00 Hawaii Five-0.12,00pm Classic Coronation Street 12,30 Emmercials Farm 1,00 Nearest and Desirest 1,30 Watching 2,00 Hallows Bart 4,00 Nearest 1,70 May 1,70 Louis Bart 4,00 Nearest 1,70 May 1,70 Louis Bart 4,00 Nearest 1,70 May 1,70 Louis Bart 4,00 Nearest 1,70 Nearest 1,70



The Saint 5.00 Hawaii Five-O 6.00 Emmerciale Farm 6.30 Classic Coronation Sireel 7.00 Meson: Impossible 8.00 The Love Boat 9.00 Classic Commetion Street 9.00 The Brien Conley Show 10.00 Jolean Wild 10.30 Hogan's Herces 11.00 Granada Men and Motors

DISNEY CHANNEL

8.00am Bear in the Big Blue House 8.25 Classic Toons 6.35 Gumm Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 6.35 Gumm Bears 7.00 Classic Toons 7.10 Aladdin 7.35 101 Delimations 8.00 Gool Troop 8.25 Classic Toons 8.45 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 9.00 The Adventures of Spot 9.05 Animal Shall 8.15 Pocket Dragons 9.30 Bear in the Big Blue House 9.55 The Toothbrush Family 18.00 Site Size 10.10 Tots TV 10.30 The Big George 10.45 PB and J-Otter 11.00 Seasone Street 12.00pm The Adventures of Spot 12.05 Animal Shall 12.15 Pocket Dragons 12.30 Bear in the Big Blue House 12.55 The Toothbrush Family 1.00 Bis Size 1.15 Tots TV1.30 The Big George 1.45 PB and J-Otter 2.00 Ousck Pack 2.30 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 3.00 The Little Mermald 3.30 Art

Attack 4.00 101 Daimatians 4.30 Hercules: The TV Show 5.00 Recess 5.15 Peoper Ann 5.30 Smart Quy 6.00 Teen Angel 8.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 Honey I Shrunk the Kids: The TV Show 7.50 Classe Tooks 8.00 FULK: The lographic Senie (1997) 9.30 Home Improvement 10.00 Dinosauts 10.30 The Wonder Years 11.00 Touched By An Angel 12.00am Close

FOX KIDS NETWORK

6.00am Power Rangers Turbo 6.30 Power Rangers Turbo 7.00 Mortal Kombet 7.25 Oggy and the Codroaches 7.30 Donkey Kong Country 8.00 Gooselumps 8.05 Sent and Max 8.25 Spideman 9.00 X-Men 9.25 Fartissae Four 9.50 The Incredible Hufi 10.15 Casper 10.30 Oggy and the Codroaches 10.55 The Mouse and the Monster 11.05 EeldStravegenza 11.30 Life with Louis 11.55 Home to Rent 12.05gms Sem and Max 12.30 Donkey Kong Country 1.00 Mougé. The New Adventures of Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Ventura 1.50 Spideman 2.15 X-Men 2.40 Fartissic Four 3.05 The Incredible Hufik 3.30 Roy and Lita's Big Ride 3.35 Mortal Kombet 4.00 Spideman

4.25 Mowgir The New Adventures of Jungle Book 4.50 Home to Rent 5.00 Gooseburgo 5.25 Eene, Inclens: The Other Dimension 5.50 Oggy and the Cockraches 5.35 Donkey Kong County 8.25 Sam and Max 6.50 EeldStravagenze 7.00 Close NICKELODEON

AllCKELODEON

6.00am Muppel Babies 6.30 Rodo's
Modern Life 7.00 CatiDosg 7.30 Augnats
8.00 The Wild Thomberrys 8.30 Arthur 9.00
Children's BBC 10.00 Wirroe's House
10.30 Baber 11.00 The Mago School Bus
11.30 PB Bass/Budgie the Little
Helcopter/Ammal Antict/Family Ness
12.00pen Rugras; 12.30 Blue's Clues 1.00
Bananes in Pylemes 1.30 Little Beer Stories
2.00 Cangers/King Rotio/Wornbles/Bod
2.30 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC
3.30 Pipp Longstocking 4.00 Hey Amoldi
4.30 Rugras 5.00 Sester Sisser 5.30 Kenen
and Kel 6.00 Sebrine the Teenage Witch
6.30 Driven Cazly 7.00 Close

TROUBLE

7.00am USA High 8.00 Saved by the Belt. The New Class 8.30 Heng Time 9.00 Tempest 10.00 Holyosis 16.30 Echo Point 11.00 Sweet Velley High 11.30 California Dreams 12.00pm The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air 12.30 in the House 1.00 Tempesti 2.00 Hobycais 2.30 Echo Point 3.00 Ready or Noi 3.30 City Guys 4.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air 4.30 in the House 5.00 Saved by the Belt. The New Class 5.30 Sweet Valley High 6.00 Hang Time 6.80 Movies, Games and Videos 7.00 USA High

8.00pm The A-Yearn 9.00 LAP.D 9.20 Cope 10.00 Scay Sex 10.30 Erote Series 11.00 FILM: Jack's Back (1988) 1.00am Sex Bytes 1.30 Scay Sex 2.00 Enterne Championship Wresting 2.30 Cops 3.00 FILM: Confessions Intend the David Cataxy Affair (1979) 5.00 LAP.D 5.30 Bushdo 6.00 Close PARAMOUNT COMEDY 7.00pm Cueless 7.30 Desmond's 8.00 Rosenne 8.30 Newsradio 9.00 Cybil 9.30 Vic Reves Big Night Cut 10.00 Frasier 10.30 Cheers 11.00 Seinled 11.30 The Larry Senders Show 12.00am Late Night with David Laterman 1.00 Taxi 1.30 The Critic 2.00 Dr Katz 2.30 Sop 3.00 Tibs and Fize 3.30 Nightstand 4.00 Close

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: BOIL-MEDNIGHT ONLY

7.30am Bromberg Information Televis 8.00 Sightings 9.00 Battlester Calact 19.00 Cushum Leep 11.00 Derk Shedo 11.38 New Altred Hitchook: 12.00pm Twilight Zone 12.30 The Twight Zone 17.10 The Twight Z Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 American Stones 2.30 Mysteries Magic and Miracies 3.00 Bestlester Gelactica 4.00 The Incredible Huli. 5.00 Sightings 8.00 Time Trax 7.00 Cusmum Leap 8.00 Sightings 9.00 PS Factor: Chronicles of the Persnormal 16.00 FILM: Automatic (1994) 11.45 Sci-Focus 12.00em PS Factor Chronicles of the Paranormal 1.00 FILM: Pithens it: The Spewming (1982) 2.50 Sci-Focus 3.00 The Twelight Zone 3.30 Dark Shadows 4.00 Closs HOME & LEISURE

8.00mm Today's Gournet 6.30 Graham Kerr 7.00 Crahwise 7.30 The Painted House 8.00 Wedding Story 8.30 A Beby Story 9.00 Simply Painting 9.30 Garden Rescue 10.00 Garden Doctors 10.30 Rescue 10.00 Garden Doctors 10.30 Conleabout with Greg and Max 11.00 Two's Country — Get Stuck in 11.30 Fax Hunt's Fishing Adventures 12.00pm Australia's Strangest Home Improvements 12.30 Dong it Up 1.00 Our House 1.30 Hometime 2.00 Wood Wizard 2.30 Home Again with Bob Villa 3.00 The Old House with Stove and Norm 3.30 Go Fishing DISCOVERY

4,00pm Rex Hunt Fishing Adventures 4,30 Walker's World 5,00 Flightine 5,30 History's Turning Ponts 8,00 Animal Doctor 5,30 Beyond 2000 8,00 Twisted Tales 8,30 The Supermetural 9,00 Exercises 5,400 Exercises 18,000 Exercises 18, Storm Force 10.00 Century of Discovery 11.00 Air Power 12.00em Fire 1.00 History's Turning Points 1.30 Flightine 2.00 Close

ANIMAL PLANET

12.00pm Animal X 12.30 Ocean Wilds 1.00 12.00pm Annel X 12.30 Coesn Wids 1.00 Nature Welch with Julian Peritier 1.30 Australia Wild 2.00 It's A Vet's Life 2.30 HumanNature 3.30 Humya Practice 4.00 Jack Hannel Sciou 16 4.30 Australia Wild 6.00 The New Adventures of Stock Beauty 6.30 Lessle 7.00 Rediscovery of the World: Cuba 8.00 Animal Doctor 8.30 Going Wild with Jeff Corwin: Baja 9.00 Wild at Hean 9.30 Emergency Vess 10.00 Men-Exting Tigers 11.00 Breed All About # 11.30 Emergency Vets 12.00em Close NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

7.00pm The Lesi Frog 7.30 Fire and Thunder 8.00 The Great Bean Chase 9.00 India in Focus; The Edipse Chasers 10.00 Externe Earth, Mountains of Fire 11.00 On the Edge, Survival on the Ice 12.00em On the Edge, Wall Crawler HISTORY

4.00pm The World at War: Banza: 5.00 Rocksta: The Vengeance Weapon 6.00 The Great Empire Roma: — The Republic of Home 7.00 Fabulous Fortunes: Dynasties — Old Blood 7.30 Gants of Sport: The Second War Years — 1940-1945 LIVING 8.00em Tiny and Crew 6.20 Philibert the Frog 6.30 Johnson and Friends 6.45 Tiny Tales 6.50 Police Ool Shorts 7.00 Practical Parenting 7.05 Professor Bubble 7.30 Califou 7.35 Bug Alert 7.55 Practical Parenting 8.00 Barney and Friends 8.30 Tiny Tales 8.35 Tiny and Crew 8.50 Practical Parenting 8.00 Diet Show 8.30 Processor Perenting 8.00 Diet Show 8.30 The Roseenne Show 10.00 The Jeny Springer Show 10.50 Maury Powich 11.40 Brooksids 12.10pm Animal Rescus 12.40 Rescus 9.11 1.10 Special Rescus 1.20 Brookside 12.10pm Animal Rescue 12.40
Rescue 911 1.10 Special Babies 1.40
Beyond Belief: Fact or Fiction 2.10 LA Law
3.10 Living Room 4.00 Machael Cole 4.50
Rolands 5.40 Resoly, Seedy, Cook 6.15
The Jeny Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911
7.35 Animal Rescue 8.00 Munder Cale 9.00
Le: The Eizabeth Taylor Story 11.00 Ser
Life Down Under 12.00em Close

ZEE TV 5.00am Amer Katheyen 5.30 Music Time 8.00 Your Zindagi 6.30 Gest Gata Chal 7.00 Fash 7.30 Daly News 8.00 Rb-Ba-Ru 8.30 Salash 9.00 Jasn 9.20 Mushe Cheand Chathiye 10.00 Pal-Do-Pal 11.00 Jher Pal Matter 20 December 19.00 Kharé 11.30 Perampura 12.00m FiLM: Hindi Movie: Americah 3.00 Zee Bengis 3.30 Mer Pe Idea 4.00 Carrous 4.30 Cutz Contest 5.00 Deasten 5.30 Chehel Aur Nafrel 6.00 Music Mag 6.30 Teacher 7.00 Char Jamai 7.30 Filmi Bestein 6.00 News Budeth 8.30 Gurman 9.00 KTC Sa Pe Ga He 10.00 The Pro Devise 12.00mm Mers. Nta 10.00 The Big Debate 12.00em News Bulletin 12.30 Aap Ki Adakil 1.00 Zee Bengia 1.30 Reehat 2.00 Fill.M: Bengali Mevie: Shaktil 4.30 Boar Jombe Mov



BUSINESS

mass delusion



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

MONDAY JANUARY 11 1999

Mirror Group and Trinity at odds after talks fail

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

TRINITY, the UK's largest regional newspaper group, yesterday pulled out of merger talks with Mirror Group for a second time, amid rumours of disputes in the Mirror camp. Trinity issued a curt statement saying that it was "withdrawing

from merger talks with the Mirror Group with immediate effect.". However, the move was last night being interpreted as a tactical withdrawal after the reopening of talks in No-vember and negotiations that were in progress as recently as last week. David Montgomery, the Mirror Group chief executive, yesterday We are still interested in

Trinity, whose papers include the Belfast Telegraph, the Liverpool Post and the Western Mail, is believed to have proposed an all-share deal that would have given Trinity shareholders 45 per cent of the enlarged group, to the Mirror's 55 per

doing a deal, but only one that holding out for a 60-40 split in Mir-enhances shareholder value." holding out for a 60-40 split in Mir-ror's favour. Ever since the start, early last year, of preliminary talks be-tween the two companies, which were broken off at Easter, Trinity has insisted that its chief executive, Philip Graf. and not Mr Montgomery should run the enlarged group.
The two sides last night put forward irreconcilable accounts of the

breakdown of talks. Trinity's decision to pull out was being attributed to a split between Mirror executive directors led by Mr Montgomery and non-executive directors led by Sir Victor Blank, the Mirror chairman. Mr Montgomery was being accused in print of having held talks with Morgan Stanley on a possible management buyout, something

that was being vigorously denied

last night.

The Mirror camp insists that its board is united on the principle of a merger with Trinity if the right terms can be obtained. The main issues in talks between the two last issues in talks between the two last week are believed to have been price and the likely synergies between Trinity and Mirror Group.

Savills set to face takeover bid from investor

BY MARTIN WALLER

SAVILLS, the quoted property consultant, is being lined up for a takeover bid from First Pacific Davies, its 20 per cent shareholder, if the company's share price fails to improve by the spring.

FPD paid 160p a share for the stake in late 1997, since when a series of British property companies, including Jones Lang Wootton, Healey & Bak-er and Richard Ellis, have been bought outright by big American concerns.

The purchase included a standstill agreement preclud-ing FPD, based in Hong Kong, from buying more shares in the company until April. But Savills shares have plunged since then to below El, although they rose 18p to 115p last week as the market scented a possible deal.

Savills will announce interim profits on Tuesday and the market is looking for a £1 million increase at the pre-tax level to about £5 million, a precursor to full-year profits the market expects to come in at about £12 million. But this puts the shares on a forward price-earnings multiple of little more than seven, in a property sector that contains only Savills and one other significant independent, DTZ Debenham Thorpe.

Aubrey Adams, managing director of Savills, said no approaches had been made for the company. "Even if there had been, we couldn't possibly comment on it."

But it is known that FPD, which has two directors on the Savills board, is seriously con-sidering a full bid. One observer commented: "If the share price really does stay at rock bottom levels, FPD would see the chance of buying at rather less than the 160p it initially paid." The two companies use the

FPD Savilis brand on a range of ventures around the world, but there is a gap in their cover-E US. WIED SEVI shares at their current low levels there is no chance of growing by acquisition thereby issu-

ing fresh equity.

Richard Edis, part of the US-based Insignia Group, yesterday confirmed that it is in talks with St Quintin to create a group with a combined turn-over of £60 million.

Lasmo and Enterprise in merger talks

By CARL MORTISHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

THE catastrophic fall in the price of crude oil has forced two former enemies. Enterprise Oil and Lasmo, into disussions which could lead to a £2.3 billion merger.

Lasmo, which fought off Enterprise in a bitterty contested bid battle in 1994, confirmed it was in talks with the former ag-gressor but this time with a view to a friendly merger.

A spokesman for Lasmo yesterday said that the talks were about "a merger of equals" and were just one of a series of initiatives aimed at improving Lasmos's competitive position, "one of which is an evaluation of a possible merger with Enter-prise". He emphasised that no agreement had been reached.

News of the talks is likely to put both companies into play. BG, the gas pipeline and exploration company, is known to harbour ambitions to increase its exploration activity.

Sources close to the companies say a meeting took place before Christmas between Sir Graham Hearne, the chairman of Enterprise, and Rudolph Agnew, his opposite number at Lasmo. The meeting was followed by talks between their advisers, including Morgan Stanley and Roth-schilds for Enterprise and

Schroders acting for Lasmo. However, the thorny ques-tion of who runs the combined group is far from settled. Tensions between the two were already in evidence, with neither side prepared to admit that it

had initiated talks. The initiative is likely to have come from Enterprise Oil, where it is believed Sir Graham has never given up on his ambition to merge the two companies after the bungled takeover bid. Shareholders demanded that he take a back seat and relinquish the

chief executive's role, which was given to Pierre Juengels. Mr Juengels is unlikely to survive a merger, having failed to achieve much success in exploration. Morevoer, he has implicitly criticised Lasmo's strategy by pouring scorn on E&P prospects in are-as of political risk. Lasmo's chief executive. Joe Darby, is expected to insist on the chief executive's job.

Key to the success of the talks will be agreement on cost-cutting. Lasmo has cut 200 jobs at head office and Enterprise is under pressure to quit its expensive Trafalgar Square offices. Both have been ejected from the FTSE 100 as their share price crumbled because of the low oil price.
Lasmo, valued at £900 million on Friday, is worth half its

value at the time of the Enter-

prise bid. The latter's shares

have suffered a similar fall.



The Enterprise-operated Nelson platform is one of the most prolific producers in the UK sector of the North Sea

SB to barter for Cuba meningitis vaccine

BY PAUL DURMAN AND PETER HARRISON

SMITHKLINE BEECHAM is resorting to barter to secure rights to a promising meningitis vaccine developed in Cuba. Negotiations with Cuba's Finlay Institute have been complicated by American legisla-

tion that prohibits trade with Cuba. SB's Belgian-based vaccines business is a subsidiary of the pharmaceutical group's American arm, which has raised the possibility that the vaccine might fall foul of the Helms-Burton Act

Recent industry rumours suggested that SB was planning to take legal action against the US Government on the grounds that its operation of the Cuban embargo was denying an important

medicine to patients. However, Rick Koenig, an SB spokesman, said the company is making progress in its discussions with the US. He said SB is "not even close" to embarking on legal action. SB struck an agreement in principle with the Finlay Institute late last year. To address US concerns about hard currency trade with Cuba, SB provisionally agreed that payments

to Finlay while the vaccine

moves through development

The 'com tower' says it all -

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for your life insurance.

will be in the form of goods such as food and medicine. . Any royalty payments on the vaccine, which could take another four or five years to bring to market, will be paid half in cash and half in goods. The vaccine is already available in Cuba and some other South American countries.

Paying too

much for your life insurance?

TIMES CROSSWORD

No 1611

ACROSS

I Bashful: embarrassed (10) S Reinforce; a pillow (7) 9 Cut with sweeping stroke (5) 10 Make fast: constrain (4) 11 Thin wire, fibre (8) 13 Landsman (at sea) (6)

15 Interwoven twigs; an acacia 17 Sickening reverse (4.4) 18 Wickedness (4) 21 Stigma (5) 23 See 7 (D H Lawrence) (10)

2 Trojan War over her abduction (5) 3 Ship's officer; cornering of

king (4) 4 (Nine-gallon) cask (6) 5 One shipwrecked (8) 6 Local variant of language (7) 7 Constance —, loved Mellors the 23 (10)

8 Foaming tub (6.4) 12 In the exact words (8) 14 Request; stage in bridge (7) 16 King's jester (Hamlet) (6) 19 A gauzy fabric (5) 20 Green (stone); poor horse (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1610 ACROSS: I Planck 4 Tonne 8 Total 9 Apparel 10 Handful 11 Dart 12 Tip 14 Tease 15 Amber 18 Tap 20 Sumo 22 Retired 24 Ruffian 25 Clove 26 Point 27 Ceased DOWN: 1 Pot shot 2 Antenna 3 Cold feet 4 Tape 5 Nerva 6 Eciat 7 Vault 13 Pastiche 16 Burnous 17 Redhead 19 Prank 20 Syrup 21 Mufti 23 Sift

SOLUTION TO NEW YEAR'S DAY TIMES TWO JUMBO ACROSS: 1 Les Misérables 8 Social science 15 Canadians 16 Boomerang 17 Assault 18 Is what gets lost in translation 19 Gecko 21 Readership 22 Handicraft 24 Subsist 25 Sparse 27 Three Wise Men 31 Inalienable 33 Angelus 25 Sparse 27 Infect wise friend 31 Inalicitable 33 Angelus
35 Echelon 37 Iodine 38 Cor anglais 39 Redeposit
41 Gammoning 43 Standpoint 44 Foible 47 Ortolan
48 Theresa 49 Temperature 50 Therapeutics 53 Strewn
55 Typists 57 Storm doors 59 Sinologues 61 Spoil 64 To put
all one's eggs in one basket 66 Arabian 67 Salamanca 68 Avoidance 69 Religiousness 70 Mischievously

DOWN: I Lacking 2 Sandwich board 3 India
4 Exaggerating 5 Alsatians 6 La Belle Dame sans Merci
7 Spouses 8 Specific 9 Crafty 10 Aggravate 11 Soapsud
12 Instances 13 Nautical miles 14 Extinct 20 Opinion poll
23 The Last of the Mohicans 24 Sailing boat 26 Shanghaied
28 Wields 29 Nonetheless 30 Egg-and-dart 32 Brought 34 Surinam 36 Hippocampus 40 Fiance 42 Mother-of-pearl 45 Bluestockings 46 Testosterone 51 Admitting 52 Tortoises 54 Neuropath 56 Dilemmas 57 Set fair 58 Orlando 60 Organum 62 Lottery 63 Felloe 65 Audio

BAA debates floating its property arm

market fell.

BY CARL MORTISHED

BAA, the airport group, is considering floating Lynton, its property development arm, as part of a strategic review of its core businesses. A BAA spokesman con-

firmed that a demerger of Lynton was under consideration for financial reasons. He said: There is a real debate on this. There is a lot of value locked up in Lynton and the question is: Can we finance the development of the property business

within the group?"

Speculation that BAA, headed by Sir John Egan, would hive off its property assets has grown since the group expanded its off-airport activities into factory outlets through a venture with McArthur Glen. Lynton has assets exceeding £500 million and last year made op-erating profits of £31 million, a relatively small contribution to BAA's £480 million profit, despite its big asset base BAA took over Lynton for £222 million in 1988 near the

property market's peak, and the business's off-airport assets became a liability as the

A demerger is likely to be led by Gordon Edington, who joined BAA with Lynton and is still chairman of the property business. For a while, he headed BAA's international businesses.



Egan: strategic review

City fears job losses over euro opt-out

By Alasdair Murray ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE City is fearful that the arrival of the single currency will result in sweeping job losses in the Square Mile, a survey published today shows.

The KPMG euro survey, taken just ahead of last week's euro launch, also confirms that City businesses are overwhelmingly in favour of British entry into the single currency.

The survey finds that 40 per cent of City companies expect job losses because of Britain's euro opt-out, while nearly 50 per cent believe London will be less attractive to overseas investors as a result. This contrasts with just s per cent of companies that be lieve the City's non-euro status will result in increased jobs and about a fifth of busine anticipate the City will still be able to attract extra business. City firms are also increas-

ingly warming to UK membership of the single currency, with 51 per cent more in favour of joining than six months ago.

Party time for lawyers

By Chris Ayres

MISBEHAVIOUR at office Christmas parties is expected to lead to record levels of litigation by employees this year. The warning by Osborne Clarke, the solicitors, came as news emerged of a senior Army officer who had been suspended after he was accused of groping female colleagues at a Christmas party in Aldershot, Hampshire. The

military police are now investigating Lieutenant Colo-nel Mike Godkin, a 43-yearold father-of-two, who was accused of "behaviour unbecoming of that rank".

Osborne Clarke estimates that up to 1,000 assault and sexual harassment cases related to Christmas and new year office parties will be launched throughout the country this month. Eversheds, another law firm, also said it was workawards given in such cases usually range from £5,000 to Up-and-coming cases in-

clude a male factory trainer suing a group of female factory workers for pulling off his trou-sers as part a drunken jape. Nick Moore, head of employ ment at Osborne Clarke, said: "There is now a much greater

of the potential for claims."

ferms for all types of life. insurance, Mortgage Protection (shown here), Level Term. Critical Illness, Accident Sidness and Redundancy. Find out NOW just how much you could savel " For joint life (male and female) both £17.29 p.m. 35 years next birthday and non-smokers Transfer Helpline £17.29 🚆 Have you left your pension with your ex-employer? • Are you getting the best return? 0800 975 5559 WEEKDAYS 8.30cm - 6.30pm WEEKDAYS 8.30cm - 6.30cm -Web Site: www.sips.co.uk E-mail: enoteline@elips.co.uk